

SAINT JOHN'S

EDMONTON REPORT

Vol. 1, No. 41, Sept. 9, 1974

35 CENTS

COSMOPOLITAN SHAREHOLDER PAUL STEFFANSON



**The victims demand justice
in a gigantic corporate swindle**

LETTERS

Out of context

Editor:

I thoroughly enjoy reading your magazine and your Aug. 19 edition was no exception. However, I do not agree with the photographic coverage you gave the PWA — Alberta government article.

The captions lead the reader to believe that the PWA fleet is obsolete, when in fact it is completely turbine-powered and as modern as any in North America. It would have been better to show none at all or at least caption the photographs in a less misleading manner which would have placed the aircraft pictured in the historical context to which they belong.

PWA's fleet at present includes Boeing 707's, 727's and 737's; Lockheed Hercules and Electras and Convair jet prop aircraft. Perhaps at some time in the future your magazine will publish an article and photographs on the more modern aspects of the Pacific Western Airlines operations and aircraft such as the 737 picture on your cover.

Ivor D. Foster
Edmonton

Scientology's reply

Editor:

The corrections to the false reports in the first article [*ER, July 1*] were used by your reporter as an opportunity to opine on the Church of Scientology's activities. Though the correction to the first article — supported by documentation — stated exactly the specific things that were untrue, the reporter . . . has maliciously twisted what was said both in the correction and by Rev. Harvey Schmiedeke to air his own bias [*ER, Aug. 19*].

We find this to be a disgustingly low ebb of journalistic practice, matched only by hastily written tabloids whose only purpose is titillation and sensationalism, and which only ever results in intellectual pornography.

The tone of the entire article is not a matter of misunderstanding, but one of contempt and arrogance. (The reporter) had told Rev. Schmiedeke that he would have the chance to respond. When the response given is twisted into further editorializing, as it has, then the question must be asked whether *Edmonton Report* is capable of letting someone else state their viewpoint. As a measure of validity, virtually none of the statements . . . would have a chance of

holding up in a court of law.

• Regarding the question of the Church's non-profit status . . . all Churches of Scientology are registered as non-profit corporations, since the income of the churches is used for operating expenses and to advance the religion of Scientology. No income goes to any individual, director or shareholder . . .

• Concerning the E-meter, the Church's confessional aid, this is simply an ill-conceived opinion of something (the reporter) doesn't understand . . . The E-meter has been misunderstood by the FDA (U.S. Food and Drug Administration), who held onto their fixed ideas about it until the Supreme Court of the United States ordered them to change it . . .

• Sara Hubbard's statement about Mr. Hubbard was retracted within two months of its issuance. The genius of Mr. Hubbard, for even those who are not themselves Scientologists, is shown in his accomplishments and writing which include the following: Hubbard was a first-rate author throughout the '40s, a holder of the coveted Explorer's Flag, an officer in the U.S. Navy, a licenced master of both motor and sailing vessels for all oceans, and an author of over 25 million words on the religious philosophy of Scientology, which has made a more shattering impact on Western civilization than any other current body of knowledge on the religious nature of man . . .

• Using the statements of the former minister of health of England, Kenneth Robinson, on Scientology is as inspired a piece of journalism as using the former President of the U.S.'s statements on anything. Both have been cast from the political arena for disseminating lies to the public . . .

• Concerning the McLeans in the province of Ontario there is an injunction on Mrs. McLean concerning Scientology. As for the funeral, this was an action taken independently by four or five Scientologists and in no way was an official act of the Church. The Church cannot be held corporately responsible for the actions of all Scientologists 24 hours a day. It would be comparable to say that all Jews are responsible for the actions of Adolf Eichmann . . .

• Mr. Hooker, a member of Mrs. Levett's group, admitted on a Calgary TV talk show that he had been working with the Canadian Mental Health Association for six months. As Mrs. Levett is sympathetic to institutional psychiatry, we can easily conclude where her attentions are diverted, as the Church has been very active in the

last four years in the reform of conditions for the aged, alcoholics, prisoners and the mentally retarded who are wrongly treated by the pseudo-science of psychiatry.

• The Canadian Mental Health Association, a non-governmental body, has been instrumental in proselytising the extremist views of psychiatry, views which only suppress individuals to the level of easily controllable stimulus-response mechanisms, and so stand in direct antipathy to the Church. It is because of our outspoken attacks on the CMHA and brutal psychiatric treatment procedures that they have had to come out with a stand on psychosurgery so as not to appear in sympathy with something obviously brutal . . .

• (The reporter) refers to the Church's approach to reform activities in a condemnatory fashion, which indicates only where his sympathies lie. Scientology has had professional attackers, and we do not turn the other cheek to those who would try to stop the Church from expanding . . .

• We can understand such articles coming from the field of psychiatry as they have never pretended an affinity for theology or God. We could also understand the contempt in these articles coming from an atheist. The fact that they are from a publication affiliated with the Anglican Church suggests to us religious elitism. However, the fact that a whole page advertisement was given to the CMHA, who have long attacked the Church of Scientology (even in a day when it consisted of 10 or 15 members) may be an omen that there is more to the article than simple disagreement. We hope not.

All the Church asks is that your publication gives us a chance to present our point of view.

(Rev.) Philip G. McAiney
Spokesman for the National Office
Canadian Churches of Scientology
Toronto

Very positive

Editor:

Many thanks for the coverage of the Black Cultural Symposium & Homecoming. Your article is very positive and aided in the success of our function.

Many thanks. Yours in unity and progress.

LeVero Carter, Director
Black Cultural Research Society
of Alberta
Edmonton

To All Senior Citizens of Alberta

The Bissell Housing Corporation, sponsor of the Meadowcroft Senior Citizen Residence, is undertaking a survey under the auspices of the Alberta Housing Corporation to determine the need for a second development. It will be located in Garneau and be known as Meadowcroft South.

Two types of self-contained apartments will be provided, a bed-sitting suite and a one-bedroom suite. The development will be designed to offer security, companionship and comfort at rates geared to monthly income.

Income for rent determination includes Old Age Pension, Canada Pension, supplements, dividends and interest. Rental rates vary from 16% to 25% of the individual income, with a minimum rate of \$32.00 per month including utilities.

If you are interested in Meadowcroft South, please help Bissell identify this need. Complete and mail the following form by September 15, 1974.

Bissell Housing Corporation
% Meadowcroft Senior Citizens Residence
11445 - 135 Street
Edmonton, Alberta

Please register my interest in Meadowcroft South.

Name(s) _____ Age(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Condition of health: _____

I own a car? Yes No

My present accommodation is: owned rented

Monthly rent \$ _____ Utilities \$ _____

My monthly income is: Less than \$200 _____

\$200 to \$300 _____

\$300 to \$400 _____

\$400 to \$500 _____

Over \$500 _____

I prefer: Bed-sitting apt. One-bedroom apt.

I require the above accommodation by 19____

This is not an application form, but rather a survey form, so that the need for senior citizen accommodation can be determined. All replies held in strict confidence.



Reverend Harry Meadows
Chairman, Bissell Housing Corporation

SAINT JOHN'S EDMONTON REPORT

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters intended for publication should not exceed 150 words (they may be abridged if longer). Letters must be signed. Address: Letters Column c/o St. John's Edmonton Report.

BACK COVER: "The Old Cowboy," by Alberta artist Jack Vander Wal, is part of a controversial exhibit being offered free to any church willing to display it. (See Page 23)

TRAP SHOOTING

Marksmanship came easy to champion of champions

Sue Nattrass didn't intend to be great when she started shooting. It just happened. Her father had been a national trap shooter and she grew up at competitions. But competing herself had never occurred to her. Instead, she preferred to spend her summers at Pioneer Ranch Camp at Rocky Mountain House. Then during her first year at the University of Alberta at the age of 18, she thought she'd enter a trap shoot at Reno, Nev. She won the whole thing. It was then that it became apparent that Miss Nattrass was no mean talent. Last week it was proved again when she won the women's Champion of Champions at the 75th annual Grand American trapshooting tournament in Vandalia, Ohio, by hitting 100 straight targets.

"What annoys everyone about my shooting is that I don't practice very much," laughs Miss Nattrass, 24. "Once a week, if at all, is enough, unless it's an international meet. Then I have to practice. It's more complicated and a different style of shoot. The birds come faster and from different angles." In spite of this, Miss Nattrass has won two fourths, a silver and broken the women's world record at the World Championships since 1969.

What does it take to be a trap shooter of world calibre? "Concentration, determination and, contrary to public opinion, some physical ability. You have to have good reflexes, good eyes and be strong, especially for international competition." International competition is what is mainly on Miss Nattrass' mind right now. Her ambition is to win a gold medal at the World Championships and to be the first woman on the Canadian Olympic trapshooting team.

The Olympic team is composed of two persons. In the past it has always been men. "I want to be the first woman." In keeping with her philosophy that women should get equal pay and equal opportunity for equal qualifications, she beat Charles Connell of Dallas, Texas, last week, 20 targets to 17, to win the Class B crown. This, however, does not mean that Miss Nattrass is a women's libber. "I go for the first part, but if it means that men won't take me out and open doors for me or expect me to ask them out, then no, I'm not. I don't go for this bra burning stuff. I'm too spoiled. At the World Championships I didn't buy a single supper."

The other thing Calgary-born and Edmonton reared Miss Nattrass remembers from the World Champion-



TRAPSHOOTER NATTRASS

Wants to be the first.

ships is that people are basically the same all over the world. "The politics may be different, but the people are the same. We meet the same competitors at international meets and we get to know each other. The last time, the Russians got in and we were all hugging and kissing each other. It's a very close group."

Miss Nattrass used to pay all her own expenses to both American and international shoots. Now the federal government has taken over a lot of the cost by paying the airfare and accommodation to internationals, but the American shoots are paid for by each competitor. Miss Nattrass says she knows she has an expensive habit, and that helps her to save money.

SCULPTURE

Exhibit of welded art debuts in local gallery

Steel is a modern metal composed of iron alloyed with various small percentages of carbon. Its qualities of hardness and resistance to rusting have led to steel being employed as a primary component in modern buildings. Its relative cheapness — compared to other materials such as bronze — brought it to the attention of sculptors, and over the last 40-odd years it has become a medium for the artist, beginning with such greats as Picasso, and continuing as a popular, but little understood, way of art today. To help bridge some of the gap between the metal artist and the public, the Edmonton Art Gallery is exhibiting this week, for the first time anywhere, a survey of welded steel

sculpture since 1930, featuring 18 pieces of sculpture by five artists.

These five men working in what has become the mainstream of modern art include Julio Gonzalez (1876-1942), a Spanish metal worker/artist who taught his friend, Pablo Picasso, the techniques of oxyacetylene welding, which they both applied to sculpture. David Smith (1906-65) was an American trained as an industrial welder, fascinated by the possibility of applying the same techniques and materials used in making locomotives and automobiles to making works of art.* Anthony Caro was born in 1924 in England and worked in traditional clay modeling and bronze casting until a visit to the U.S. in 1959 changed his direction around and he began producing welded and bolted metal sculpture which seemed to defy the forces of gravity. The fourth artist represented, Michael Steiner, was born in New York in 1945, and in that vertical city has produced works which are primarily horizontal in nature, looking at times like random droppings of sheet metal in the backyard of some foundry. Tim Scott, born in 1937, is an Englishman who has worked with Caro, exploring new ideas in metal art, integrating other mediums such as acrylic plastic into his work and using color as a

*Smith ironically has been said to have been killed by his own art. He met his fate when the truck he was driving — loaded with steel for use in his art — careened off the road and the steel drove its way forward through the cab, killing this artist in what many critics felt was his prime.



GONZALEZ "HARLEQUIN"
At the point of departure

structural element rather than merely a pictorial one.

These five men — along with that guiding genius, Picasso — have made inroads into an unexpected artistic field, using the knowledge of the skilled laborer to turn some drawingboard ideas into three-dimensional form. As Terry Fenton, director of the gallery, explains: "With steel, the sculptor can't cut or mold the medium as he had in the past, so the result had to be less traditional, with more of a machine look." In their path of finding out what steel could do, he says their work became more and more abstract, until "finally there is no evocation of anything, human or animal. Each phase of



SMITH'S "VOLTRI-BOLTON XXIII"

The nuts & bolts of art.

abstraction seemed as abstract as the art could get, then another would come along and everyone would have to think again."

The basic use of steel-welded sculpture itself was originally a point of departure from the traditional concept of sculpture as a figurative statue. Use of steel, which comes in sheets or rods, limits how representative of human form the artist can make his work. But even a vertical three-dimensional object, like some of Smith's work, retains an uprightness which relates to the area of those things understood by man, and makes some of this sculpture more comprehensible to the lay on-looker. It was when the artists represented in this exhibition began working in horizontal modes that the

abstractness of sculpture was pushed to new horizons. So explains Karen Wilkin, gallery curator and the person primarily responsible for the unique exhibit. This original exhibition will attempt to portray the kinetics of 20th Century sculpture, giving Edmonton the first glimpse of what the artist does when he mingles art with what is traditionally called skilled labor.

ARMED FORCES

First woman parachutist is riding high at Namao

Sgt. Pete Vallee described one of the most recent graduates of his basic parachutist course at the Canadian Forces Base in Edmonton as "mentally and physically strong, probably stronger than 50 per cent of the guys. Never showed any sign of fatigue. On the five-mile road run in boots, right in the front ranks all the way. Set an example and won the respect of the other 57 cadets." He summed up his ex-pupil by repeating what some of the course-mates said, "She's no ordinary girl."

Indeed, Officer Cadet Nancy-Jean Monseler, 19, is not just another ROTP (Regular Officer Training Program) university student going through the three-week course to get parachute wings. First of all, she was the first woman to qualify and complete the course. She received identical training with the 57 males in this section during the two weeks of ground training and one week of jumps (totaling eight) and made the instructor comment that "I'd better be tougher with the boys next course." The petite (5-1/2, 100 pounds) brunette was treated by Sgt. Vallee and others just like another boy, he said, "except for the language."



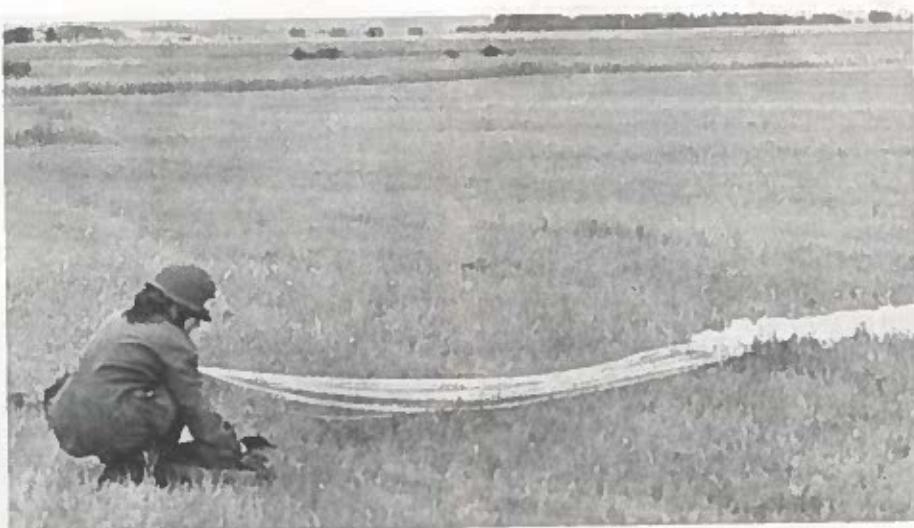
A HELPING HAND
For pioneering cadet.

When fully decked out in equipment for a jump, Cadet Monseler was outweighed by the snowshoes, rifle, rucksack and various parachutes which she was required to carry, but was undaunted, displaying what another of her instructors called "a never-quit attitude." Her own response to the course was that it had been "hard work, but it was worth it. Anybody who does physical exercise like this can't help but feel better."

She feels good about the whole experience, saying, "I have always been fascinated with jumping. When the opportunity to volunteer for this course (the alternate choices were scuba diving and French) came up, I decided to take it." As for her original decision to join



NANCY-JEAN LINES UP WITH FELLOW TRAINEES
Definitely no ordinary girl.



PARACHUTE RIGGING TAKES LOTS OF PRACTICE

"There's no reason you can't finish."

the ROTP program, the University of Saskatchewan-Saskatoon student said, "It's a good way to go through university. You get to travel and meet people and I like that." She didn't mean necessarily meeting those of the opposite sex, who were in such great abundance around her, for in this training course there was no time for dating ("We work together on a professional level") and, in addition, she had not been asked. After receiving her wings, she returns to her native Saskatoon and her academic courses in her major of physics, in which she is now in her third year. At graduation, when she receives her commission, her intention is to be an engineer in the forces. In the meantime she will join the sky-diving club on campus and get in some higher jumping.



OUTWEIGHED BY GEAR
First to qualify

In spite of the appearance of an outdoor and male orientation, Nancy-Jean claims she was not a "tomboy" when younger. Her parents and five brothers were not surprised when she opted for parachuting, she said, because "in Grade 8 I took shop instead of home ec, just because I wanted to." That philosophy of individualism and determination has brought her this far and is why she does not see her action as a part of any women's liberation movement. "I did it for me." Her advice to her female friends who might want to follow her footsteps would be for them to evaluate "how badly you want the wings, but if that's what you want there's no reason you can't finish it."

Possibly not coincidentally, the next group of trainees going through the parachutist course includes several who could take Nancy-Jean's advice. Eight of the 48 total practicing on simulated airplanes and chutes are women, including Second Lt. Gail Louise Edwards of 10945 82 Avenue. That Edmontonian is a member of the militia, as are her fellow course mates who hope to be jumping some time next week. That is, providing the rigorous training can overcome what one instructor called "the altogether natural inclination not to want to jump out of an airplane."

ASTRONOMY

Sound to watch stars by new planetarium feature

Thousands of dollars worth of sound equipment is being held up at the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium by electric switches that cost about a dollar and a half. And that is just one of the problems facing the planetarium's 27-year-old curator, John Hault. Renovations, the first in the building's 14 year history, just aren't going according to schedule. All the equipment deliveries were late in the first

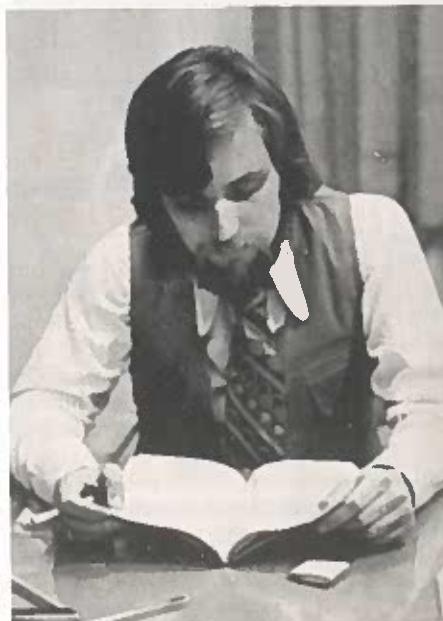
place. And then there is the fact that August is one of the worst possible months to close the planetarium at all.

"It's in the middle of the tourist season, and we had to close for three weeks. It wasn't enough time, even then, but we couldn't close for two months. And the city electricians are having a bit of a break in the schedule and were available, so we were stuck," explained Mr. Hault. "There is a scarcity of materials, there are labor problems in Germany and all the renovations planned for earlier this year were delayed until the equipment arrived. Some of it still hasn't come."

One of the main pieces missing is an Omniphonic sound system. To those not familiar with sound equipment, it has 12 speakers and, by means of a joy stick, can make sound appear to travel across the planetarium. One can hear a cricket making its way from one side of the room to the other. It can also make stars appear to be talking. The whole system was designed specifically for planetariums.

Another improvement is installation of a recording studio with a playback system. Since most of the productions shown at the planetarium are produced by the staff there, it will mean that they can diversify and produce more complex shows in the future. Script writers are called in to write the productions, and the rest is done by the staff with the help of actors and photographers. The third major change, which comes out of the \$47,000 allowed for renovations, is the new Panorama system. This will use slides in order to reproduce skylines for future productions.

Although most of the shows at the planetarium are produced locally, Mr. Hault brings one in each year. This



CURATOR HAULT
Time & money needed

year, he is particularly excited. He has obtained Isaac Asimov's *The Last Question*, which deals with the history of the universe from a science fiction point of view. The cost of it will be about \$800, mostly in royalties to the author.

After speaking of the cost of that particular production, Mr. Hault mentions the budget of the planetarium — \$124,000. The income is about \$20,000. "This could be made up, though. We rely on people coming into the planetarium for revenue. The problem is that many people aren't interested in what we have to offer. If we could change slightly and, without interfering with the science end, add something of more general interest, then we would get people familiar with the planetarium at the same time as adding to the revenues."

Mr. Hault has something specific in mind when he says "something of more general interest." Light shows with music. "What could be more natural than shows under the stars? The planetarium is designed for light shows. Many American planetariums have used this idea quite successfully. Some come close to breaking even. Ours is too small to bring in a live band, but taped music would give a similar effect."

PESTS

Being bitten on the job is all in a day's work

When the provincial department of environment wanted a man to use as human mosquito-bait in St. Albert, lots weren't drawn or volunteers sought — Willie Theisen got the job. He



EDMONTON'S QUEEN ELIZABETH PLANETARIUM
Most shows are produced locally.

figures it was logical since he is and has been for several years in charge of the pest control program run by the town parks department. Since the test was set up to see if controls were effective, it made sense that he ought to suffer if his program did not work.

So all summer Mr. Theisen has gone to Lions Park every Wednesday, Friday and Monday at 3 in the afternoon. "Probably the lowest time for mosquito biting," he comments. He stands in the same spot for two minutes, counting the number of mosquitos which light on his bared right arm to draw blood. He then moves to another spot approximately 10 feet away and repeats the two-minute count, doing a similar test one final time before rolling down his sleeve and heading back to tabulate his results in terms of bites per minute. He said drily that this summer was a pretty good one to start the program since the index count did not get much above .5 bites per minute, which is a low rating.

It takes over five bites per minute to constitute an extreme rating, and if that

happened, it would indicate Mr. Theisen is not accomplishing the other part of his job, which is supervising and participating in mapping of mosquito breeding areas and subsequent spraying. "That's the hard part of the job," he said, indicating that standing with his arm out swatting those mosquitos unfortunate enough to land on the testing site was no great feat. "All you do is pick your spot, roll up your sleeve and stand there. The mosquitos locate you, unless you're pretty lucky. Spraying, you can work up a sweat."

While engaged in the testing program — and from some of his previous contact with the little bugs — Mr. Theisen has learned several facts about the pests, some known and others not common knowledge. "Of course, only female mosquitos bite you because they need the blood for fertilizing their eggs. They breed in standing water almost wherever it may be, making it almost impossible to eradicate them completely no matter how thoroughly we spray. It's hard to imagine the hundreds of larvae that can be found in the wet ground around a horseshoe print. For some reason it seems that the adult mosquito likes to hang around spruce trees, I guess for the moisture and protection that can be found there."

Despite the knowledge that he possesses, these small menaces with their threatening stingers are not comrades but the enemies of Mr. Theisen's department. Though admittedly unscientific, this test hopefully will help measure some of the effects of that continual warfare between man and tiny insect. Also aiding that battle is the department of environment's input of \$750,000 into municipal control programs, a portion of which allowed St. Albert to use a helicopter to extend some of its spraying over the County of Sturgeon. The challenge of the job keeps Mr. Theisen going. Hopefully, by swatting mosquitos off his arm as he counts them, he will get a better idea how well he is meeting that challenge.



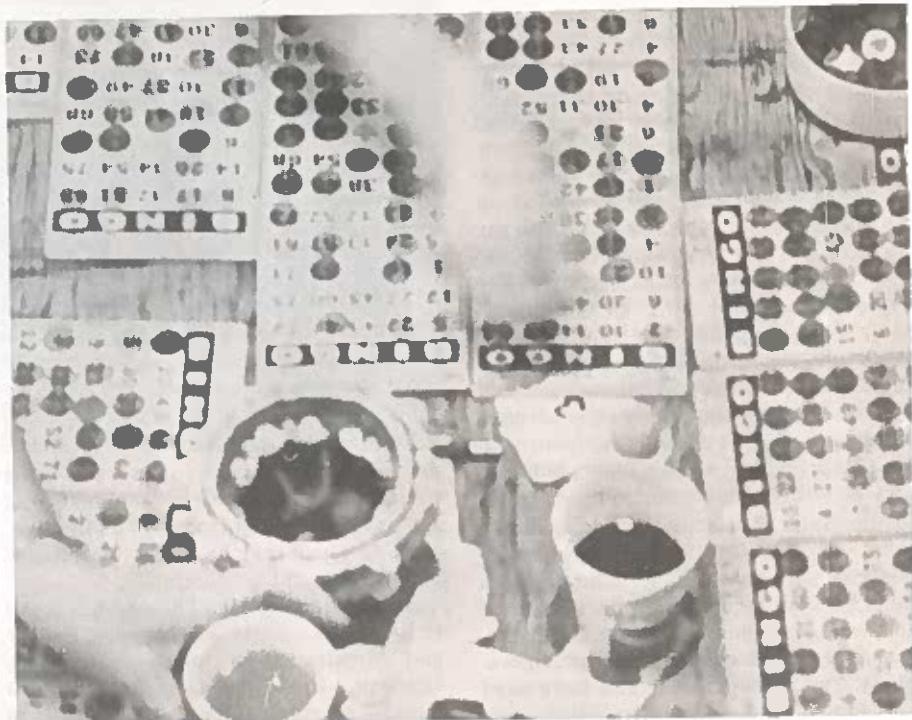
MOSQUITO-LURE THEISEN AT WORK
"All you have to do is stand there."

THE SCHOOLS

COMMUNITY USE Schools as liquor outlets haunt trustees as vote nears

Two familiar sparring partners took centre ring last week as the Edmonton public school board once again attempted to resolve the issue of whether or not liquor and/or bingo should be permitted in public school buildings after-hours under the lusterless banner of something called the Extended Community Use of Schools Program. Even duller was the department of research and evaluation's evaluation, a 30-page report on the 5½-month trial period that the functions generated. Debate, however, proved that none of the trustees had lost their touch over summer recess. R. Herbert Jamieson regretted aloud that the one night the TV cameras should have been there and weren't, it was that night. The source of his regret was R. Vernon Johnson, who could not be persuaded to understand how the future of the public schools is dependent on booze and bingo.

And so the trustees' semi-circle was split down the middle. On the left were Mr. Johnson and Lois Campbell who minimized the issue's importance, while on the right Mr. Jamieson and Edith Rogers led the fight for the sanctity of the classroom and the spiritual welfare of the students. Straddling the fence was Dr. John G. Paterson, who considered the entire question a "non-issue" but was willing to uphold "the integrity of the board" by not only listening to, but voting for, the rights of



BINGO PLAYERS NEED AGILITY & SPEED
Use-of-schools ruling is due this month.

the opposers.

The debate which led to Mrs. Rogers' motion to have the issue go before the voters in October was spiced with laughter, caustic comments and eloquent appeal to moral indignation.

Dr. Harry Mosychuk, assistant superintendent for research and evaluation: "The results of the evaluation were virtually nil. There were no side effects except for the occasional feeling of increased vandalism."

Johnson: "You mean to tell me that 143 school buildings were used an aggregate of only 26 times in all those months? My rumpus room is used more than that and I'm thinking of closing it out!"

Rogers: "The students surveyed viewed both booze and bingo activities in the schools as having a positive influence on the community. What facts did they have to make that statement? Ontario researchers have found that wherever there is an increase in the use of alcohol, the intake of intoxicants increases... There was no research to back up the students' statements. And where are the names of the schools used in this report? Yet it says that students attended some of these functions where the alcohol was consumed. In all but two cases, there were community league buildings available in the same area but higher cost was the prime factor for not using them. I move that a vote of public school board supporters be taken as to whether or not they think alcoholic

beverages should be present or consumed in public school buildings... My phone hasn't stopped all day from taxpayers who want it stopped!"

Johnson: "I opposed the introduction of booze and bingo into the schools from the beginning because it takes revenue from members of the business community. In effect, they would be supporting the competition. But it's ridiculous to issue a 30-page statement for five cigarette burns (only incident of damage to school buildings)! I could care less whether we have booze or bingo in the schools or we don't. Since I don't think it endangers business, it's nothing but a tempest in a teapot!"

Paterson: "I have had people phoning me from both sides, equally angry... One thing that is remarkable about this report is the lack of interest in the whole thing by those surveyed. We certainly can't draw any conclusions from an 18 per cent return!"

Mosychuk: "The responses were extremely low. Normally 25 to 30 per cent is the minimum you should expect."

Rogers: "There is so much gambling and lotteries approved by the province that we can't make an issue out of bingo. But anyone who votes for alcohol in the schools is voting for more accidents, family breakups, overcrowded hospitals, increased crime and the like."

Jamieson: "Mrs. Rogers and I have stood alone on this board to oppose this.



TRUSTEE JAMIESON
Regrets lack of coverage.



TRUSTEE JOHNSON
A nonsense issue?

If it were isolated and placed before the voters, I don't think that they would support it. The third paragraph on Page 1 of the report prejudices this as a research paper (i.e. 'Generally, those respondents who expressed negative feelings and advocated discontinuation of the program cited religious and/or moral reasons for their opinions'). This issue may appear to some of us on the board as not very important. But our responsibility as trustees is to provide excellent education, not just adequate. Secondly, we must preserve a certain atmosphere and climate in the school room. It's almost a sacred place (here, the young male student union representative shook his head disgustedly and lit up a cigarette). It must be a safe place for our youth. We have attacked this climate with this issue! And it's not like any other attack that has ever been launched. There have been many others but they have been subtle. It all started with former trustee (Donald) Kennedy's introduction of liquor into the schools. This packaged brief takes the heat off for awhile but it is too pat... It is self-defeating. If it is used to substantiate or establish anything, it would be nothing short of a travesty.

"We have not liked to listen to the evidence. In June, a pressure group in Edson was able to influence that city's school board to put the same issue to a plebiscite. Concerning games of chance in schools, 223 voted against and 156 for. Concerning alcohol, 247 voted no and 132 yes. And Edson is what I would consider a pretty hard drinking town! We're talking about the preservation of the public school system!"

James F. Falconer, chairman of the board: "The board introduced the booze-bingo experimental period to

terminate just before election time, and the minister of education (L. D. Hyndman) has indicated on several occasions that these issues should be put before the electorate... We cater to the minority groups."

Johnson: "The cost would be minimal but I think it critical that the wording of the plebiscite be appropriate. I don't think it should ask if you're opposed to sin. And I can't go along with trustee Jamieson that the future of the public schools rests on this issue... If this isn't done carefully, we will show we're more concerned with nonsense issues than the education of our children. If it's a rigged question, I will oppose it."

Campbell: "There are many important educational concerns which should be dealt with by the citizens. If the only issue we can muster to present to them is booze and bingo — well, the report says it has no consequence... This board hasn't even considered other topics to present. What about compulsory physical education or even whether or not schools should be compulsory? Or the type of examinations given?"

It then was agreed that the board would decide at its next meeting Sept. 10 to approve or nix deciding the issue once and for all at an election. Mr. Jamieson looked drawn. The possibility of 143 additional liquor outlets was not his idea of advanced education.

REQUIREMENTS

Physical education may halt if warring mothers succeed

According to the familiar local radio jingle for an auto dealer, "It's who you know that counts!" in getting action or fair price on a car. At the conclusion of last week's public school board meeting, tiny-but-tough Annie Armstrong felt that sentiment could well be her theme song. Mother of three, she commanded the attention of the board when she and a fellow complainant and mother, Mrs. Geraldine Archibald, delivered a condemnatory brief blasting "the present rigid and compulsory methods of presenting physical education" in the public schools. The board, however, demanded documentation of injuries in return, maintaining that nebulous open line radio comments and other verbal exchanges were not sufficient evidence for the board to recommend optional physical education classes.

"Why do you have to get nasty with people or have connections in order to get through to our elected officials?" asked Mrs. Armstrong later as she recounted her struggles since a neighbor boy launched from a springboard and failed to get caught, landed on his head and cracked a vertebra. He was told to phone home himself, she

said, because to have taken him to hospital immediately would have caused his parents undue alarm. Mrs. Armstrong maintains that he should never have been moved at all. Since then she talked with other sympathetic parents and discovered a multitude of infractions of common sense. One child fell to a bare floor from suspended ropes, a diabetic girl died in a swimming pool, an asthmatic girl was forced beyond her capabilities, an insurance agent's daughter cracked her pelvis on the parallel bars — the list goes on. Now Mrs. Armstrong fears for her own children's safety and with grim resolve she even will resort to gaining an injunction halting all physical education in Alberta schools until the program is fully investigated. In the meantime, she



OPPONENT ARCHIBALD
Continuing 15-year battle

will continue to bombard the department of education and circulate a petition because she would rather not deprive those who want to take the class from doing so.

"My kids have been enrolled in judo classes and Little League. But even if they spend two athletic hours every evening after school, they are still forced to take gymnastics in school which they hate!" Mrs. Armstrong says that the parents and their children should have the right to choose P.E. or not, or what types of sports should be elective. And a high school diploma should never hinge on two physical education credits as it now does.

Mrs. Archibald, wife of CFRN open line radio announcer Jim Roberts (professional name used on the air rather than their family name), couldn't

agree more. She has been fighting the system for 15 years and finally on Aug. 14 signed a letter telling Principal R.P. Baker of M.E. LaZerte Composite High School that she acknowledged that if her son Jamie does not complete two credits in Physical Education 10, he will not be eligible to receive a high school diploma. She requested his removal from the class anyway. "My children are not physical misfits," she says. "They are doing very well academically. My oldest boy had a weight problem and was required to do objectionable things in P.E. As a result I have had to take him to a guidance clinic for his mental anxieties. There are situations where kids should be honorably exempt. No way are they going to keep my kids from graduating!" She bitterly feels she is getting the "royal runaround" from officials and that P.E. is such a sacred cow to them because of economics. "What else would they do with the expensive gyms they've built?"

The "heavy" in the first board meeting of the school year proved to be physical education supervisor Dr. Harry J. Hohol. Resplendent in purple accented by steel-rimmed glasses, he calmly replied to the mothers' pleas. He said that he was not aware of any letter parents were required to sign forfeiting their children's diplomas. It was conceded that only 50 of 1,100 elementary school teachers had exten-

sive university training in physical education, but that in-service training and one university-level class were required of them. At the junior and senior high levels, teachers have never been as well qualified as this year. "No student is forced to do anything out of the ordinary beyond his size and health qualifications. I know that it is possible to get the two-credit graduation requirement waived with a valid medical certificate." He also felt that more accidents had been reported last year than were necessary rather than lack of reports as the mothers alleged. Many minor abrasions were scrupulously recorded, he said.

Later Dr. Hohol admitted that when he talked in his office with the mothers in August, he could not produce injury figures for them. All school-related accidents are lumped together. He has since ferreted out those occurring only in P.E. They amount to approximately one per cent of all children in such classes. Some 2.28 per cent of last year's 70,000 children in public elementary, junior and senior high schools were involved in injuries before and after school, recess, inter- and intramural sports, and P.E. classes.

"No matter what the statistics say," says Dr. Hohol, "if injuries have come to you on a personal basis as parent, the figures become meaningless." He speaks as a father of three and feels for the crusading mothers. "My oldest boy caught his spikes in the takeoff board of the triple jump at high school and ended up with a broken collarbone. Later he was lifting weights and I told him repeatedly not to try for heavier weights but rather more repetitions. He didn't listen and raised too much weight over his head, blacked out, fell backward and the bar of the weights came down on his forehead. Some 27 stitches later he learned his lesson. Who did I blame? I had to blame him."

Whom does the mother of the child who fell off the ropes to the bare floor blame? The teacher told her that Dr. Hohol said protective mats did not have to be placed on the floors. "We have 94 elementary schools equipped with the Canadian Climber (a glorified jungle gym) and mats are not required," he says. "We do not want to let kids grow up with a false sense of security which mats provide. Anyone falling from 12 feet is bound to get hurt anyway, mats or no. We want kids to learn to perform with care and not take the unnecessary risks they would with mats." The mats, in effect, are more dangerous. "We have had very few accidents on this equipment. The only way to avoid injury is not to take the class." By the same token, he feels, to avoid injury in any aspect of life, don't move.



SUPERVISOR HOHOL
Figures are meaningless.

Dr. Hohol heartily recommends that wary parents call principals and teachers, and arrange to observe what is going on in the classes. "I truly believe in physical education. We can't make all kids fit, but we can foster good attitudes toward physical development."

But the parents are not that easily placated. They want satisfaction and do not find it in the fact that the moment their children reach Grade 7, whether male or female, they must participate in soccer, volleyball, basketball, cross country running, gymnastics, track and field, softball and dance, plus field hockey and creative dance for girls only, and flag football and wrestling for boys only. The sole way out is a medical certificate, which Mrs. Archibald has not succeeded in getting nor does she feel she should have to. "I want to offer three boys to the world who will accomplish something, not three gold medal winners."

Principal Baker says that for that reason he is hamstrung. "This has never happened before while I have been principal. Mrs. Archibald's son is not ill or defective. Therefore I have no authority to exempt him from the class. The only reason we requested she sign that letter is to keep on record that we discussed the issue and is fully aware of the consequences." Mrs. Archibald wryly observes that the biggest consequence is that her son will be prevented a university education. Mr. Baker says that isn't the end of the world. "You can get a good education without graduating and many have done it. I also know that universities have sometimes made exceptions on requiring diplomas. It is conceivable that this action may not affect Jamie's education



COMPLAINANT ARMSTRONG
Wants right to choose.

at all."

And so Mrs. Archibald and Mrs. Armstrong fight their lonely war. They were not warmly received by the board, which postponed further action until the Sept. 10 meeting but was thankful for the audience even though, Mrs. Armstrong says, a female heckler was planted in the back. Trustee R. Vernon Johnson said that his five children had gone through the system and the compulsion never did them any harm. "There are bound to be excesses when dealing with 75,000 kids, but we're not running any concentration camp!" His next statement, however, clinched the case in the mothers' minds. "I run a fairly successful law practice and some of my clients have succeeded in gaining settlements for P.E. injuries. One judgment was for \$25,000 against a P.E. teacher who got carried away." At least, thought the mothers grimly, now they have a sporting chance.

HANDICAPPED New superintendent fights stereotypes about deaf

It took a year-long search extending eventually throughout North America, but at last the Alberta School for the Deaf in Edmonton has found a superintendent. He is Kelly W. Boesen, a 30-year-old American who has had extensive education and training to equip him for his new position and who looks upon his job as a real challenge. It is his firm belief that the deaf, any deaf, can be taught to communicate, and it is his philosophy to "help make the world a better place. I can do this by helping a handicapped child to grow into a self-supporting, taxpaying adult."



SUPERINTENDENT BOESEN
Instant communication.



ALBERTA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
Modified version of "regular" curricula.

Mr. Boesen was reared in Nebraska (Edmonton is much like his home state, only colder, he says) and earned a bachelor of arts degree in industrial arts at Kearney (Neb.) State College. On graduation, he was named to the staff of the Nebraska School for the Deaf in Omaha. After two years, he transferred to the Indiana School for the Deaf. While there, he served as president of the Indiana Teachers Association. In 1971, he received a federal grant to participate in a national leadership training program for the deaf at California State University. Through this program he won a master's degree in educational administration and supervision. He came to Edmonton from the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford, Conn., where he was director of vocational education and rehabilitation.

Mr. Boesen is impatient with ill-informed persons who equate deafness with mental retardation. "For years, the deaf were classified by the public along with the insane," he complained. "Mental institutions in the United States still have deaf persons locked inside their walls." A far better approach, he said, is that used by the Alberta school, which utilizes many methods to help the deaf achieve communication. It teaches lip reading, finger language and graphic illustration. It encourages pantomime and facial expression. The school, which follows a modified version of the same curricula used in "regular" Alberta schools, makes maximum use of textbooks, film strips, slides and audio equipment that supplements students' residual hearing.

The Alberta school teaches not only students from the province but a number from the Northwest Territo-

ries, which hasn't enough deaf to warrant a school in that area. Students from 5 through 18 are accepted, and classes are limited to only five or six students, as a teacher must maintain eye-to-eye contact at all times. A student with normal hearing may let his eyes wander at times and still follow the lesson, but the moment a deaf student loses eye contact all communication ceases. Most students live in dormitories, two to a room, and they have lounge areas with television sets, refrigerators and stoves. A unique feature of the school is that each bedroom has a Teletype machine connected with a telephone, giving students instant contact with the staff.

Mr. Boesen and his wife, Suzanne, live in a house across the street from the school, and he is on call 24 hours a day. He doesn't mind the hours, because he considers himself a humanitarian who became a teacher because of a desire to help mankind.

VOCATIONS Mobile cassette libraries show jobs like they are

The goal is to allow the interested high school student to go to this cabinet, pick out one of the 135 video cassettes, slip it into its slot by the 20-inch color television monitor, sit back and see if he or she really wants to pursue the occupation that flashes past in a montage of faces, places and words. The cost of this little addition to the high school counselor's arsenal, a bargain according to its inventors and marketers, Film D.R. Productions Ltd., is \$12,500. Donald W. Reed, president of the film company and Reed Advertising, said last week that the company has

presented the Reed Vocational Resource Library idea by brochure and two prototype cassettes nationwide, taken orders and will be moving into production stages in a month to six weeks.

The idea of presenting vocational information directly from people involved in the fields of interest is not an especially new one, for lecturers from industry and trades have been talking to students for many years in schools, but the limitation has been that usually only one person was talking and he could be in only one locality at a time, necessitating elaborate scheduling of talks and usually lost class time. With the library the resources of a team of researchers who spend months interviewing and filming men and women on the job and getting them, in project coordinator Graham Mackey's words, "to show what it's like to be involved in an occupation, a feeling of the life-style," will be easily available.

The two-year-old project has meant talking with thousands of men, companies and unions, according to Mr. Mackey, to categorize and define an occupation and get it into an interesting and useful form. Many of the features of the 10-minute films are influenced by this desire to "bear in mind the final person who's going to be using it," Mr. Reed said. Because the original and primary aim is at the secondary school student, the film was made in color and on TV cassette. "This generation has grown up with TV all around them and if something isn't interesting they'll just shut it off." The montage effect of many different visual and aural specifics coming at the viewer is not new, but a concept familiar to many of the audience the library is aimed at, popularized through the years by many shows since *Laugh-In* originally made the technique into top-ratings prospect.

The musical part of the soundtrack is also teen-aimed, said Mr. Reed, composed by the Edmonton group, The Brothers Bogaardt Expansion. In fact, this Edmonton-based company had most of its project work done by Edmontonians, from cameraman to soundman, although Mr. Reed is quick to point out that they searched for the top quality people in the different fields — "and we were glad to find people who were so competent right here." In case the overall quality of the work is doubted, Mr. Reed said that some of the negative comments they have received when presenting the library to schools and libraries have been that the production was *too slick*; that is, that it did not seem to fit in with the sometime mediocre film material found in the educational setting.

Interestingly, Mr. Reed and Mr. Mackey found positive response to their project in more areas than only the secondary school system. Colleges said they would be interested in using the library. Canadian immigration offices saw possible use of the libraries (with foreign language dubbed in) as an introduction of Canadian life and working conditions to potential immigrants. In their research, Film D.R. personnel came across the curious statistic that the average Canadian changes jobs every four years, indicating that possibly manpower centres could use the library.

And Mr. Reed is confident this multitude of organizations will be able to afford the libraries, even find them reasonable. That cost analysis is because a district, not an individual school, can buy the portable library and take it around to various schools. In addition, Mr. Reed points out that the "package" aspect, the fact that equipment and all 135 cassettes are included in the one price, allows it to be a one-time purchase at a lower price. Even updating as new jobs are created and old ones phased out can be accomplished by a relatively simple and inexpensive erasure and retaping process. And the cassettes, as opposed to film (in which the series is also available), last for a long time, so that when the libraries begin to be delivered two years from now they can be expected to be around for a long time.

Another advantage of the library is that it will interface with the VISA experimental project which supplies the vocational counselor with a computerized retrieval system of information on the variety of jobs available — including necessary education and possible current salary. It is hoped the increasing volume of knowledge at the student's fingertips will help alleviate the story Mr. Reed tells of the small prairie town high school student who



PRESIDENT REED
Beginning production.

went to his counselor and told him that he was interested in zoology only to end up going into farming because that was all the counselor knew enough about to advise the student in.

STUDENTS' UNION **Proposed budget cuts would** **eliminate U of A station**

If the University of Alberta campus is a little quieter this year, it may be because there is less money being spent by the Students' Union and more by the students. And the cause of the belt-tightening, ironically, is the HUB, which has cost much more than originally intended due to inflation and other unforeseen economic pitfalls. Still, Students' Union president Joe McGhie said last week the HUB shopping mall was catching on better than ever — there was a waiting list for students wishing to rent rooms and the commercial space was being slowly filled — but he emphasized past budget deficits were causing the Students' Union executive to be more conservative with its allocations.

The cutbacks that Mr. McGhie and his four vice presidents have recommended include several changes to avoid deficiencies like the \$220,000 that hit last year. One project which recently had been expecting to expand was to be completely dropped — the student radio station, CKSR [ER, Aug. 12]. Though Mr. McGhie stressed that the cuts were only recommendations at the present stage, station program manager Dave Wright already has quit and found other employment, and the other paid employees were looking in other directions. There also was talk of even selling the equipment which has been



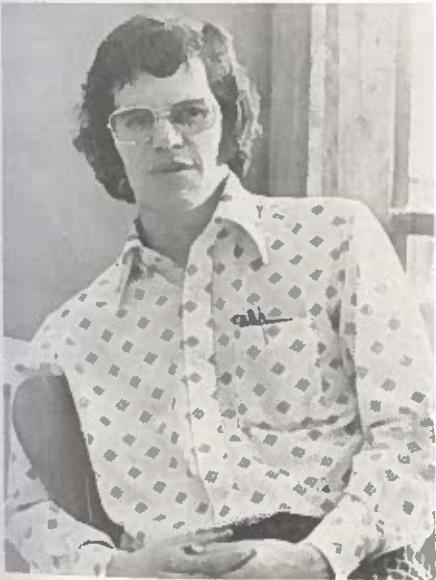
COORDINATOR MACKEY
Showing what it's like.

used for the station's operations over the past few years, but that was decided to be a too-final move. Another major change recommended was a raise in rents in the HUB's 200-odd bachelor apartments to what McGhie termed "competitive rental rates," as opposed to the current situation which has those residents subsidized by the Students' Union.

If, as would be customary, the entire Students' Union approves its executive's recommendations, admission to the student cinema would be raised to \$1 for students and \$1.50 for non-students. Fees would be added to members of the public who wish to take part in arts and crafts offered by the Students' Union, and the promotional budget, which HUB stores had been looking forward to increase the non-university traffic in the centre, was cut back from its proposed \$60,000.

Along with these cuts, the executive also suggested additional money be spent in other areas. More money is to be given to the telephone directory budget for its improvement, and it is hoped to increase the number of paid staff members on *Gateway*, the university newspaper. Mr. McGhie stressed that the *Gateway* expense is expected to be offset by a grant from the university to subsidize these proposed pay increases to senior editors.

With these budget jugglings and HUB looking "not as gloomy as last year," Mr. McGhie looks forward to the radio station returning the following year, though there was no mention of lowering any of the proposed raises in rents or fees. The sometimes-insulated university student now will feel more of the inflationary economy that has been plaguing the whole of the city.



PRESIDENT McGHIE
HUB better than ever.

AG's lawyers sweating over Cosmo case for they themselves are on carpet

In the glass paneled offices of the attorney general's department on 105 Street there exist these days full drawer loads of files on a single subject — the Cosmopolitan Life Assurance Co. The files tell in nit-picking detail the tale of a 10-year adventure with the savings and investment capital of more than 30,000 Canadians, most of them Albertans, whose losses have been set by Price Waterhouse audit at \$5,383,507. Many of the files last week were out on desks as Crown lawyers labored to discover whom, if anyone, they will try to put in jail over the Cosmopolitan disaster.

The civil service had several reasons to sweat. One was the report of a judicial inquiry into Cosmopolitan whose disclosures did not leave the bureaucracy looking flawlessly efficient. (See Page 12). Another was the distinct possibility that the government itself could be sued for failing to protect its citizens. The third was a stolid, one-eyed agitator named Paul Steffanson, chief spokesman for Cosmopolitan's pillaged shareholders. To the AG's department over the past 14 months, Mr. Steffanson's image has changed from ludicrous to annoying to irritating to threatening to downright dangerous. For among the disciplinary reprimands that the government may have to mete out as a result of the Cosmopolitan inquiry was one to the AG's department itself.

What Mr. Steffanson has repeatedly asked before, during and after the Cosmopolitan inquiry is how the captains of Cosmopolitan and the rest of the tenuous Alberta and British Columbia insurance industry could somehow lose that much money when this industry is subject to more government controls and patrols than almost any other in the province. It must undergo not only the customary scrutinies of the Alberta securities commission, but also of the department of insurance. Unlike other corporations, insurance companies cannot trade their shares and securities without specific approval of the insurance department. And what happens now, asks Mr. Steffanson and Co., when the chief architect of the Cosmopolitan disaster has disclosed that he had been paying over money to the man in the government insurance office centrally responsible for policing his company's activity — a fact reported by the *Edmonton Journal* last May 7 on Page

27 — and the man himself has admitted getting the money and said he thought it was "a personal loan" — a fact reported the following day by the *Journal* on Page 87?

These and other questions arose late last month as the suffering shareholders of Cosmopolitan and its equally destitute parent, PAP Holdings Ltd.*, met with a lawyer at the Executive House Motor Inn to decide what they would do about the report of Judge R.P. Kerans' judicial inquiry. The answer: Reconstitute the board of directors of



ATTY. GEN. LEITCH
"No thought" of compensation.

the lamented PAP Holdings and sue the government by reason of the "misaction or inaction" of its civil servants. The judge himself had deplored the "inordinate delays" in the AG's department in investigating the debacle and prosecuting those responsible. Atty. Gen. Mervin Leitch has said that the government has given "no thought" to compensating the shareholders.

However, Mr. Steffanson and his fellow shareholders have encountered resistance from Mr. Leitch before. From March until June last year, they besought him by written submission and publicity ploy to call the inquiry. Mr. Leitch, they said, was avoiding them. They called a meeting for May 4, and the attorney-general announced he would not attend it. Mr. Steffanson then

*So named after the initial letters of the first names of its three founders—Peter Van Rhyn, Albert Joasma and Peter Vlieg.

What was the government doing while Cosmo was pillaged? A senior official of the AG's dept. makes the explanation

To the looted investors in Alberta's Cosmopolitan Life Assurance Company and its parent, PAP Holdings, a key question has been: How could all these millions be lost in an industry which is supposedly controlled by so many government agencies? The department of insurance, the securities commission, and, if need be, the attorney general's department and the commercial fraud division of the RCMP, all have a responsibility for insurance companies. The answer to their question was given to the Kerans inquiry by Yaroslav Roslak, assistant director of criminal justice, a transcript of whose testimony follows.

Mr. Roslak was examined by Mr. Major:

Q: Mr. Roslak, would you tell us what your position with the Department of the Attorney General is?

A: I'm presently assistant director of criminal justice at the Department of the Attorney General.

Q: And at the request of this Commission you have reviewed the department's records relative to the activities and investigations of Cosmopolitan, P.A.P., and related companies?

A: Yes, I did. I reviewed three files that we have in the department and particularly the file which we call the criminal file, relating to investigations of possible criminal offence.

Q: The other two files are the file on this inquiry —

A: The other one is a file of this inquiry, and there is one on the insurance aspect of it.

Q: The insurance aspect had been dealt with through the insurance department?

A: Through the insurance department, it has been dealt with at our department, entirely by either the assistant deputy attorney general at the time or the —

Q: That was Mr. McLean? †

A: No, it was Mr. Friedman. ††

Q: Oh. Sorry, I —

A: And then director of criminal law, which was Mr. McLean, and the lawyers in the civil section.

Mr. Major: Perhaps I can interrupt here. Your Honour, we've produced the files in their entirety, which you see on the bench. Some of the matters are presently ongoing. I

think it would not be in the public interest that those files be entered and made available to public scrutiny . . .

For the reasons mentioned, I think it would be inappropriate to mark them or to make them part of the public record at this time, because there are outstanding charges with respect to people that have already given evidence here, and there are ongoing investigations, and it would perhaps interfere with both aspects of those matters if they were marked.

Mr. Roslak, would you just, you prepared a summary from the files and your inquiry in the office, as to the course the investigation by the Attorney General's Department took in these matters, and what I would like you to do is just briefly run through the period when you were — by you I mean your department — became aware of activities that caused you concern, and just the sequence as to what was done from that point on.

A: Yes, I have prepared a summary, and this indicates some of the highlights of the continuing investigation. And now, dealing with this file. The file commences with a letter dated September 6th, 1962, concerning Mr. Albert Jaasma. To October 11th of 1962 there is considerable reporting received from the Securities Commission, without any request for the Department of the Attorney General to take any action. On October 11th, 1962, Mr. G.H. Rose wrote a lengthy letter to the Deputy Attorney General, reporting on the company, and this is the Cosmopolitan Assurance Company, — and the investigation conducted by the Securities Commission to the date, in which he mentions that further investigation made disclosed a technical breach of the Securities Act. And the file then discloses no further correspondence until March 10th of 1966. There is almost a four year gap there.

At this time, Mr. Rose wrote again to the Deputy Attorney General, enclosing a copy of a further investigation report but no action was requested and the investigation by the Securities Commission was to continue. At this time, on March 17th, 1966, the file was assigned to Mr. Richard Anthony of Department of the Attorney General.

On June 1st, 1966, Mr. Anthony,

after reviewing this file, wrote to Mr. K.J. Rootes, stating that unless there is any further action contemplated by the Securities Commission, it was his intention to conclude the file. Mr. Rootes replied on June 10, 1966, stating that he will keep the Attorney General informed regarding further investigations. (The above matter concerned a bucket operation called Cosmo West Securities Limited through which Mr. Jaasma maintained a false market for Cosmopolitan stock which he boosted from \$12.50 to \$51.50 a share. Cosmo-West also 'bought' back Cosmopolitan stock from those disgruntled purchasers who complained loud enough. This stock was often sold again as treasury stock although nothing from the sale was going into the Cosmopolitan treasury. The Securities Commission put the shutters up on Cosmo West in 1966, and as seen, the Attorney-general's department was closing the file. It proved a little early to close the file for Albert Jaasma already had launched the great conglomerate PAP Holdings Limited.)

Mr. Roslak continues: Then on July 7th, 1967, we were in receipt of a memorandum by Mr. Howard, (Deputy provincial secretary) bringing to our attention certain irregularities, at which time the file was assigned to Mr. Ron Karoles. And on November 6, 1967, Mr. Karoles, after looking into this matter, states



FULL FILE DRAWERS
Inside department's offices.

†Deputy Attorney-General W.F. McLean.

††Former Deputy Attorney-General S.A. Friedman.



WRITER ROSE
A four-year gap.

that there is some basis for action by the Superintendent of Insurance under Section 42(1) (V) of the Insurance Act.

On November 27th, 1967, we were in receipt of a memorandum from Mr. Rose, following which the Assistant Deputy General authorized engagement of Mr. S. J. Hale for purpose of investigation, and this was granted in December of 1967. Mr. Karoles was still continuing with this file.

On January 4th, 1968, we received, under cover of a memorandum of Mr. Rose, a report, preliminary report from Mr. Hale, which was dated December 15th, 1966 — or 1967, I'm sorry ...

In July of 1969, on July 25th, 1969, we received a file report. Received a memo from Mr. Rose, together with a final report by Mr. Hale, which was dated July the 4th, 1969. And at that time there was a suggestion that the Department assign a solicitor to look into these matters, and the Assistant Deputy Attorney General assigned this file to Mr. Casson on July 29th, 1969.

In October of 1970, the file discloses Mr. Casson's memorandum to the Attorney General, stating in part that he discussed this matter with Mr. Rootes, who advised him that there are numerous current activities which are under investigation, probably resulting in requesting, in requests for fiats to prosecute. It was Mr. Rootes' view that Attorney General should not pursue investigations of the matters outlined in his two previous reports, as the items mentioned were quite old and it

would be more profitable to pursue those matters immediately under investigations.

A: This is the memorandum from Mr. Casson to the Attorney General.

The Commissioner: It's not a matter of any great moment, but I rather recall it was Mr. Rootes' testimony that the suggestion came from Mr. Casson.

Mr. Major: Could I read what the witness has referred to?

The Commissioner: No, let me read it, please.

Mr. Major: I am just thinking there are so many people in suspense if it is not read publicly.

The Commissioner: Well, the key sentence is "It is his view . . ." his, clearly referring to Mr. Rootes, "that we should not pursue investigation of the matters outlined in his two reports aforementioned as the items mentioned arose two or three years ago." So Mr. Casson clearly indicates in his memo that the idea of not proceeding with the earlier matters came from Mr. Rootes. All right, go ahead.

A: Then from October of 1970 to October 1971, for a whole year, the following action was indicated: a series of investigations were made by the R.C.M.P. and reported directly to the Securities Commission, which resulted in certain prosecutions under the Securities Act. There was a fiat issued for the prosecutions regarding PAP in December of 1970, by the Attorney General, and the Trial was held on October 27th, 1971. There was also a charge against Donogo Holdings Ltd., which was heard on April 21st, 1971. And I understand both charges were dismissed.

(While the Attorney-General's Department was thus heavily engaged in the two trivial prosecutions involving PAP Holdings Limited, referred to above, Mr. Jaasma, Dr. Lampard and Van Rhyn were more importantly engaged elsewhere. The looting of Cosmopolitan was almost complete. The sum of \$450,000 had been borrowed on the security of its 103,400 shares of Seaboard on the authority of Jaasma and Lampard. This \$450,000 was at once loaned to Canamera Enterprises, the B.C. company which they had incorporated. The whole \$198,702 in Cosmopolitan's segregated fund had been "misappropriated" and lesser assets were fast disappearing. Needless to say, the Attorney-General's Department saw the need for more investigations . . .

And from May of 1971 to October of 1971, the R.C.M.P. is engaged in a continuous investigation of possible areas which could result in offences being uncovered. And in this period, the accounting firm of Clarkson, Gordon and Company was being used and numerous reports from R.C.M.P. received in this regard . . .

I have it from Mr. Casson, then, that on November 9th of 1971 the whole file was assigned to the attention of the outside counsel, which was Messrs. Shortreed, Stainton and Company, and they were charged with the further investigation and prosecution of the offences if charges were laid.

From that time, from November of 1971, till now, the file indicates a fairly close contact between our office and the outside counsel, with respect to the ongoing investigation, both in and out of the Province of Alberta, and there are some outstanding charges before the Court, I believe two charges under Section 320 of the Criminal Code.

Q: Mr. Major: Was there any suggestion made, that appears on the file or otherwise brought to your attention, that there has ever been a suggestion from anybody in authority that any type of preferential treatment be given to these companies, or that they not be investigated?

A: No.

Q: The reference you made to the memo of Mr. Casson and Mr. Rootes, I take it, there, the concern was that the matters that Mr. Hale had looked at were now getting rather old and there may be some newer and current activities that would be easier or better to prosecute.

A: Yes, that was the suggestion, or the suggestion I have from file and from discussing this matter with Mr. Casson, that the matters which were revealed or investigated by Mr. Hale would not be as profitable for the criminal prosecutions as the new matters that were under investigation . . .

Q: Bearing in mind that the Queen never wins or loses in these matters.

A: Yes.

Q: The suggestion of Mr. Rootes was, in no way, if that was the sequence, or of Mr. Casson's, I take it was in no way to avoid prosecuting these companies, but rather to try and prosecute successfully.

A: Yes, this would be my view from what I have read on the file.



UNHAPPY SHAREHOLDERS

Dr. Harvey Fish & daughter Lynne.

prepared a protest march on the legislative grounds. It was called off when Mr. Leitch agreed to the meeting. Meanwhile, Mr. Steffanson had applied in court for a writ of mandamus requiring the attorney-general to call the inquiry. The writ was refused, but on June 20 the inquiry was called.

Meanwhile, having had Cosmopolitan under investigation for more than 10 years, the department in the spring of 1973 laid charges against its president, Albert Jaasma, two charges under the securities act, two under the criminal code. The calling of the inquiry stayed proceedings on the criminal charges. In September, Mr. Jaasma was found guilty of the securities offences. The sentence: A fine of \$650.

Judge Kerans opened the hearings last fall and there unfolded a tale of corporate machinations and apparent government bewilderment that took Judge Kerans 36 days of hearings to untangle. However when it was over, the following story had emerged:

Albert Jaasma, said the *Journal* in a lavish article published in the Cosmopolitan hey-day back in November, 1968, amidst a lucrative half-page of laudatory advertising, came to Canada from Holland in 1955, "young, ambitious and eager to live successfully according to the affluent standards of the land which was to become his home." Getting settled, he worked as a butcher, then as a gardener. Soon his talent as a salesman was recognized and he went to work for five years for the North American Life and Casualty Co. But he yearned to have his own insurance company. By 1962 he had earned enough money to start one, said the *Journal*.

(Whether Mr. Jaasma actually put

any cold cash into the original Cosmopolitan is something that has never been clear. His investments usually involved the transfer of stock from other Jaasma companies.)

In any event, Cosmopolitan came into being with an original capitalization of 106,000 shares which Mr. Jaasma peddled at prices ranging from \$12.50 to \$51.50 to people throughout Alberta and Ontario, many of them hard working immigrant families. Meanwhile the securities commission, the insurance office and the attorney-general's department began sending memoranda to one another about all this activity, pointing out, among other things, that Mr. Jaasma was not licensed to sell stock.

Meanwhile Albert Jaasma had acquired colleagues. The most intimate to the business was Peter Van Rhyn, a trucker and ex-credit union manager.



PROBER STEFFANSON

Chief spokesman.

Another to become associated was Dr. James Lampard, a Red Deer optometrist. Peter Vlieg, one of the PAP company's original founders, was bought out at an early stage by Messrs. Jaasma and Van Rhyn.

Cosmopolitan had as much success selling policies as its founders had selling stock, but one simple life insurance company was not enough to satisfy the "young, ambitious and eager" Mr. Jaasma. What he wanted was a conglomerate, and conglomerates were run by holding companies. For this purpose and for the purpose of retaining control of Cosmopolitan, PAP Holdings was incorporated in 1967. Total stock unloaded on the public: \$3 million.

PAP initially browsed in trifles. Stock and options to buy it were acquired in Lux Farms, a hog raising venture (which, an embittered shareholder later testified, fared badly after Mr. Jaasma

began interfering with the management); Balmoral Developments, which owned the Balmoral Block in Red Deer; CKRD Broadcasting in Red Deer, Ptarmigan Airways Ltd., and something called Van Rhyn Agencies Ltd.

But what was really captivating was the idea of an insurance conglomerate. One company with a certain number of policies has a greater administrative cost per policy than would two companies when merged. There were, moreover, three other western insurance companies which commanded Mr. Jaasma's attention — all three centred in Vancouver: Seaboard Life, B.C. Life and Casualty, and finally the greatest plum of them all: NWL Financial Corporation, parent of North West Life and of something called the NW Growth Fund Ltd., which at that time had assets of no less than \$40 million. Put all these together, said Albert Jaasma, and one would have acquired success "according to the affluent standards of the land which was to become his home."

The first objective was Seaboard, and its acquisition went smoothly, or so at first it seemed. The method of acquiring the company was this: Using their capital from PAP, Cosmopolitan's promoters first bought 117,000 shares of Seaboard stock. They then turned over to Seaboard most of the life insurance policies they had sold through Cosmopolitan in exchange for another 103,000 shares of Seaboard stock. This gave PAP control of Seaboard and, in effect, transferred to Seaboard the primary assets of Cosmopolitan. Two of the four companies were now in the bag. The transaction also brought into the story the executive assistant to Seaboard's



GENE WATSON
Another shareholder.



ALBERT JAASMA & HIS WIFE
Festive occasion in their days

president, an aggressive young salesman named Paul Steffanson.

The third company, however, escaped them. B.C. Life and Casualty was owned by something called Columbia Beneficial Holdings, which in turn was owned by four businessmen from Salt Lake City. PAP paid the four \$100,000 for their stock in Columbia. But, says Mr. Jaasma, the Alberta government — by this time keenly concerned over PAP's activities — refused to permit PAP to take over the company. At this point another party appears on the scene. He is Peter G. Ropchan of Vancouver, central figure in the development of the fourth intended company, N.W. Financial Ltd. With PAP having paid for stock it could not acquire, Mr. Ropchan

stepped into Columbia and in a maneuver which government lawyers are still trying to figure out he transferred the stock of the four Salt Lake City men into his own control. The basis of this transaction, says Mr. Steffanson, has never been adequately explained, but Mr. Ropchan wound up controlling the company that Mr. Jaasma and his associates had paid for with money raised from Alberta investors.

Their experience with the fourth company, the plum called N.W. Financial, was to prove infinitely worse. With a \$40-million growth fund as the prize, Mr. Jaasma says that he approached Dr. Charles Allard of Edmonton's North West Trust Company with the following proposition: Provide a substantial share of the \$5 million that it will take to buy N.W. Financial while PAP provides the rest, and an insurance block conglomerate could be formed consisting of Seaboard, Cosmopolitan, and North West Life. The Allard company would receive a healthy management fee for running the conglomerate. The doctor agreed, said Mr. Jaasma, conditional, of course, on control being acquired of N.W. Financial.

The latter company had a curious history. It had been developed largely through the efforts of the intrepid Mr. Ropchan, and had had in its day some formidable directors. One was John Wintermeyer, leader of the Liberal Party in Ontario. Another was Einar Gunderson, bagman to the late Premier W.A.C. Bennett of British Columbia. But Mr. Ropchan and associates had sold much of the N.W. Financial stock to yet another organization — Residential Resource Developments (RRD), whose

head offices were in the Bahamas. RRD had ambitious plans, too. It wanted control of the N.W. growth fund in order to finance a lavish Las Vegas-type development immediately north of Vancouver which it proposed to call Cyprus Bowl. But before RRD could take full control of N.W. Financial, the B.C. government stepped in and refused it permission to name the directors because the government was not enamored of RRD's Bahamian connection. (Mr. Jaasma told the Kerans Inquiry that RRD was, in fact, controlled by the Mafia.) So, like the PAP group in Alberta, RRD found itself holding controlling stock in a company which it could not in fact take over. Mr. Ropchan still controlled it, and RRD was therefore ready to sell.

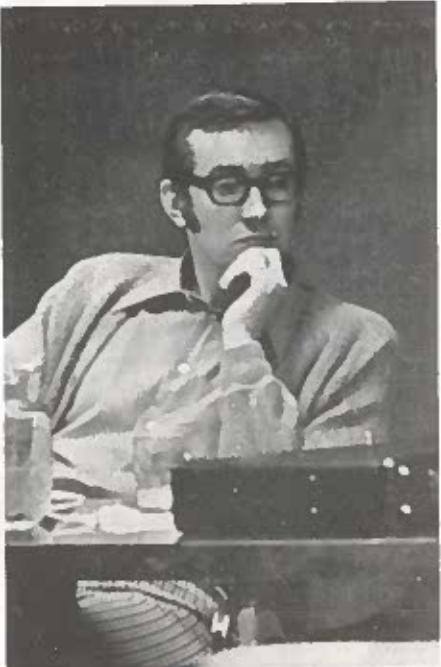
And PAP was ready to buy — armed, it says, with the pledged financial support of the Allard group in Edmonton. An arrangement was worked out in which the controlling stock in N.W. Financial was to be paid for by PAP at the rate of \$300,000 a quarter. The Allard group began putting up the money. In the meantime, it took as security from PAP that company's one tangible asset, the shares it had bought in Seaboard Life, where all Cosmopolitan's policies were now vested. At this point, Mr. Jaasma told the Kerans Inquiry, occurred the disaster. Mr. Ropchan, he says, suddenly issued more common stock in N.W. Financial, thereby reducing the proportion acquired by PAP below the point at which it could control the company. Realizing that the whole arrangement depended on PAP's controlling North West Financial, the Allard group withdrew its financial support for the whole deal. PAP could



ALLEN SPELEY
Also a shareholder



EDWARD DUNCAN
He lost, too



GERRY SIEBEN

At shareholders' meeting.

not meet the promised payments to RRD, and as a result lost all the millions it had already put up. Neither could PAP make good the money that the Allard group had already advanced. So the Allard group promptly took over PAP's shares of Seaboard. Finally, RRD sold its stock in N.W. Financial back to that company's original founder, Peter Ropchan. The outcome: Mr. Ropchan had both N.W. Financial and Beneficial. The Allard group had Seaboard. Cosmopolitan and PAP had virtually nothing. By January of 1972, the PAP and Cosmopolitan investors were beginning to demand some kind of explanation.

Chief among them was Mr. Steffanson. The Saskatchewan-born investor, whose loss of an eye in a scissors accident while a child gave him as an adult a remarkable resemblance to the TV detective *Colombo*, was brought up on a farm, took engineering courses in his youth and settled eventually in the investment business as director of sales for Federated Investments Ltd., the firm that eventually became the N.W. Growth Fund. He had previously achieved renown in an unusual area. For three years in succession he was a western Canadian wrestling champion, and also was noted as a weight lifter.

When Mr. Ropchan's group took over the fund, Mr. Steffanson went to work for Seaboard Life. It was in this capacity that he became involved financially in the Cosmo-PAP disaster. He bought heavily into the company, and his own losses he estimates at \$80,000. One other thing he did, he lived to regret. At the management's request, he helped transfer PAP stock

to employees of the corporation in Saskatchewan. Ever since he has faced a charge in that province of selling stock without a licence. Though the charge has never been pressed, it is a soft spot in his own defense which his critics in the government service are not slow to pounce upon.

He began his two-year fight for the judicial inquiry after he was thrown out of a shareholder's meeting of one of the PAP companies on the grounds that he did not have the right stock to attend the meeting. He had a \$22,000 investment in the company, however. In the ensuing two years, he traveled to eastern Canada twice, to Vancouver and Victoria many times, to Calgary and other parts of the province more times than he can number. He prodded regulatory bodies. He badgered politicians. He organized shareholders. He accumulated files, amassing evidence against Cosmopolitan directors. How, he was asked at the inquiry, had he come into possession of so many documents?

He replied: "Hard work and asking. Just go and ask, and obtain copies and originals and photostat copies, and put them into a file, and then find what is missing, and try to get in some more documents."

"Were any of the documents obtained by purchasing them or stealing them?" he was asked.

"No."

The inquiry's most sensational disclosure came during its closing days, when Mr. Jaasma, recalled to the stand, announced that he had transferred \$5,000 to William McKinnon, chief examiner of the provincial insurance department. He had also paid the premiums on a \$30,000 term policy taken out by Mr. McKinnon in the insurance company. "I felt he earned it," said Mr. Jaasma.

And Eric Geddes, a Price Waterhouse accountant who acted for the inquiry, added: "There is no question that the principal examiner was deeply committed to helping the Cosmopolitan-PAP group solve their difficulties and remain a viable enterprise." The following day, Mr. McKinnon said that he regarded the money as a loan, that he did not know he was the holder of a \$30,000 life insurance policy which Mr. Jaasma was making payments on, and that he had been vigorously pushing for civil and possibly criminal charges in connection with Cosmopolitan Life.

The significant parts of the Kerans report — those dealing with criminal prosecution — have been kept understandably secret while the harried officers in the AG's department push their assessment of the case with more ardor than they have shown in the past ten years. Even at this stage, they say, a prosecution could be ruined by hasty

preparation. They disclose one other fact: Since 1969, the commercial fraud division of the RCMP in Alberta has been increased from two men to more than 30. It's a great reform, says Paul Staffanson, but it seems to indicate that the protection was not there when it should have been.

PUBLISHING

Offbeat Tree Frog Press boon to budding authors

Tucked away in a small white building off 106 Avenue, Tree Frog Press, the only significant publishing outlet for the prairie's budding young poets and visionaries, took a giant frog leap towards success this summer with publication of the *Edmonton Access Catalogue*. Sort of a Whole Edmonton Catalogue, the paperback has sold out its press run of 1,500, and Allan and Kathy Shute, the young Edmontonians who tend the tiny multigraph press and the rest of the business, are already talking about next year's edition of the catalogue in terms of at least 12,000 copies. If, as seems likely, all 12,000 are bought up by Edmontonians and their tourist friends, the catalogue will easily qualify as a best-seller.

The catalogue is only the latest in a series of remarkable little publications to issue from Tree Frog headquarters, though perhaps it will have the widest appeal. Other titles in Tree Frog's list include *39 Below, the Anthology of Greater Edmonton Poetry*, which has found use in local reading classes; *Space Baby*, poems by former Edmontonian Jan Lander; Allan Shute's own *Double Feature*, a spiral-bound, outrageous mini-novel about a molester who is himself molested in the Dreamland



ALLAN SHUTE

"You have to be nuts..."

theatre; and perhaps most bizarre and yet strangely appealing of all, *Forever Together*, chronological notes on mysticism and madness by ManWoman, Edmonton's own 100 per cent authentic literary freako.

How (and why) all this pours off the end of a press originally designed for light use in small offices is a story of long hours, hard work, inspiration and dedication. Mr. Shute, 29, published his own first writings long ago on a purple hectograph jellypad, and has been at it ever since, gradually acquiring a knack for printing and taking on the publication of other people's work as well. Mrs. Shute, also 29, who has traveled to India twice but returned to Edmonton to live because "it's a big town but it's a lot of fun," quit her job as a nurse last week to devote full time to the family

business. Upcoming projects include 300 copies by Christmas of *The Seedpod Book of Joy*, with Beardsley-esque pictures and text by Edmonton artist Robert Ralph Carmichael, and *Bonnie McSmithers*, a children's book written by Sue Alderson and illustrated by Fiona Garrick. And lurking somewhere down at the other end of that seemingly endless pipeline of Shute's own porno-poetry is his *Fetish Out of Focus*, complete with woodcut collages of buildings, faces and fishes. And, next year, the second edition of the *Access Catalogue*.

"You have to be nuts to be in publishing," says Mr. Shute, a native Edmontonian whose grandfather, caretaker of the MacLean block on 107 Street, wrought some intricate iron hinges which may be seen on the building's

doors today. "Down east," adds Mrs. Shute, "a poet just has no hope of getting his work published. Here, because of us, some of them do." The Tree Frog name itself guarantees a continual stream of poets through the front door with dog-eared manuscripts under their arms. "They look through the yellow pages and see names like Bulletin-Commercial, MacLean-Hunter, you know, nothing, nothing, nothing, then Tree Frog! and they say, hey, those are my people!"

Mr. Shute's publishing endeavors have not limited themselves to books. One of his early projects was a batch of silk-screened T-shirts made up after a rowdy group turned the inside of the Coffee Cup Inn into knee-deep rubble late one night. Lettered around a cracked and sad-faced comic-strip coffee

Edmonton Access Catalogue a real gem

The *Edmonton Access Catalogue* (Tree Frog Press, \$3), immodestly subtitled "the most complete guide to Edmonton activity," does for Edmonton what the Guide Michelin does for Europe, with a generous helping of Edmonton trivia thrown in for good measure. Once through the catalogue, one's next ramble through just about any part of the city takes on new dimensions. Buildings never seen before, restaurants, leap out of the background and take on character and identity. Best of all is the dawning excitement that comes when one can look at a place and relate it to other places in the city, and perhaps get a handle on what one's own place in Edmonton's life might really be. It is the beginning of the discovery of what makes Edmonton peculiarly Edmonton, and not Calgary or Red Deer or Vancouver. Tree Frog Press has published a book for people who *really like* it here.

To flip through the catalogue is to take a guided tour of Edmonton with a group of chatty, perceptive, intelligent friends who are perfectly willing to take the time to fill you in on every little question you might have about the city: Where to get a bottomless cup of coffee, which stores handle authentic native arts and crafts, where to buy a dulcimer or Chinese herbs, which service stations and drug stores are open 24 hours a day, how to drive in a traffic circle or enter a movie theatre, how to locate Women's Lib and Gay Lib groups, and gobs of other information and direction, important, useful and trivial.

The catalogue, its flyleaf over-

whelmed by dozens of lime-green tree frogs, carries no advertising. Made possible by a grant from the department of manpower's local initiative program, which paid the salaries of staff members for six months, the catalogue was edited and run through the press by Allan Shute, with assistance from Karen Sokolowski, Bill Pasnak, Sandra Morgan, and various local correspondents who contributed articles about their own discoveries in Edmonton, as well as Kathy Shute, who could receive no money under the terms of the grant because she is married to the boss. The Shutes made no money on the project.

The catalogue is a marvel. Readers can find in it information, interspersed with Mr. Shute's pithy and observant side comments, available nowhere else. They may not want to buy a handmade canoe or visit the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium, attend a dog show or take a train to Calgary, but they can learn how to go about it if they wish. They can also learn how to initiate a plebiscite, get around Woodward's Food Floor or the Army and Navy Store, live with the ETS or have groceries delivered at home. A section on places to eat rates them as to relative price (with dollar signs) and relative quality (with frogs, and a three-frog restaurant is very special). There are illustrated walks through Ukrainian Edmonton and the 97 Street area. There are book reviews, essays on local history and features on the people who give the city its flavor, from CHED's Eddie Keen to unofficial town crier Pete Jamieson. The catalogue solves once



KATHY SHUTE
Hope for local poets.

and for all the perennial problem of what to do with the in-laws when they show up, baggage in hand, and demand entertainment. The biggest problem with it is that it will keep disappearing, as somebody borrows it to find out the best way to get to Elk Island National Park or where to get a book bound in a hurry. Though the book is unavailable through Tree Frog, which shipped its last copies two weeks ago and is turning down all new orders, a copy or two may be left at some bookstores. If not, a trip to the library just to skim through the volume will be well spent, and the impulse to tuck the book in a pocket and run past the electronic checkout, setting off the bells and buzzers, will just have to be resisted. Next May: *Catalogue No. 2*.

mug was the slogan "Remember the Coffee Cup." After unsuccessfully trying to peddle the shirts at a local rock concert, where nobody even knew what the Coffee Cup was, Mr. Shute was visited by a group of police officers who bought out his entire stock. "Somewhere out in St. Albert there are cops playing volleyball in our T-shirts," he chuckles. His conversation is laced with anecdotes about people and places in Edmonton, many of them no doubt gained from conversations with his mother, local artist Dorothy Shute (whom he describes as "a fine frog"). That Mr. Shute loves Edmonton is apparent from his affectionate tributes in the catalogue to the city's architecture, its traditions and the diverse personalities that help shape its character. "I'll write a history of Edmonton some day," he says, "after some of the stories I know have aged enough so that nobody will be upset."

The Shutes, having recently acquired a second press which will allow them to do bread-and-butter job printing without interrupting their book publishing, look around at their tidy little plant with affection and obvious pride. With the first edition of their catalogue an unqualified success, with enough money coming in to keep them going, and with their obvious love for the art of printing, they appear to be caught in a moment of suspension: by this time next year, the days of worrying about the bills could be behind them. If, when the second catalogue is published next year it indeed becomes a best-seller, Allan and Kathy Shute may find themselves, however reluctantly, plopped into the great big frog pond of the Establishment.

RESTAURANTS

Gourmet meals without wine make Edmontonians unhappy

They tell patrons what they can eat, how they can eat it, when they can come, where they can sit and how long to take for a meal. But this isn't enough for the two owners of the Great Escape Restaurant. They want to be able to serve wine and tell patrons what to drink as well. Last week they applied the second time for a restricted liquor license.

Allan Blue and Peter Priestly started the Great Escape in the early part of 1970, working on two assumptions: First, that Edmontonians were becoming cosmopolitan enough to demand more in the way of food than the numerous steak houses, pizza joints and hamburger factories were able to produce; and second, that they would be able to persuade Edmontonians that their kind of food was what gourmets were looking for. It appears they were



GREAT ESCAPE'S PRIESTLY & BLUE
Giving orders as well as taking them.

correct. After a short trial and error period, the restaurant came into its own and has been thriving ever since.

The Great Escape is patterned after the basic French restaurant, although no specific one. It has a cozy atmosphere, serving only 30 persons an evening in a small, old-fashioned room. The food is of a high quality, and diners are asked to allow at least three hours for a meal. Peter Priestly is the chef, Allan Blue taking the duties of host, maitre d' and waiter. During the meal, Mr. Blue will explain what each course is, what goes best with what, and then he confines his duties to serving the patrons and talking. "Talk is cheap entertainment," he explains, "and people appreciate it."

People seem to appreciate the whole idea of the Great Escape. The two receive as many as 100 calls a day, asking for reservations. They are booked solidly for eight weeks in advance, but refuse to take any more than that. They claim they could be booked up to six months if they allowed it. "People look on the food and form of dining as an escape," says Mr. Blue, "and that's one of the reasons we named it the Great Escape." The other two reasons are more personal. Mr. Blue, 40, had been working for a finance company for 18 years when he started the restaurant. He considers it his own escape. Mr. Priestly, 28, escaped from working for employers, cooking what they wanted cooked, in a certain way at a certain time. The two are extremely pleased with what they, without any outside help except a once-a-week cleaning woman, have been able to produce. They would, however, like to serve wine with their meals.

Refusal of the Alberta Liquor Control

Board to grant a restricted liquor license has been a source of embarrassment both to many government officials, who like to take out of town dignitaries there, and to the owners, who think one of Edmonton's only nationally known restaurants and one that has been designated one of the 10 best* in the country, ought to be allowed to serve wine with meals. The ALCB, however, sees things differently. On first applying, the Great Escape was given a list of some 77 regulations which would have to be fulfilled before a license could be granted. These cover everything from health to fire. The two estimate it would cost them about \$10,000 to comply. However, there is some indication that the rules may be more flexible now and the owners of the Great Escape have applied once more.

"The ALCB has never made provision for anything other than steak and lobster, and pizza houses," explains Mr. Blue. "It appears that it never thought anyone might have enough gumption to try something different. It never considered something like the Great Escape would come up. We were regarded as hippies when we first started, and no one thought we would succeed. Now we have, and we want a license. But the ALCB is trying to fit us into prearranged categories that we don't fit in."

If the ALCB refuses a license again, Mr. Priestly says that the two are considering moving into a more modern building. However, to do that would require more income, and the chances are good that the restaurant would expand, losing some of its now famous coziness and personal touches.

* "Where To Eat In Canada," 1974/75, published by Oberon Press, Ottawa, Ont.

THE GOVERNMENT

FREEWAYS

Ecologists win skirmish over MacKinnon Ravine

In the ever expanding and intensifying war between urbanization and the environment, ecologists won a battle here last week — not the war, but a significant skirmish. By the slender margin of one vote, city council approved an amendment to the city's transportation systems bylaw that eliminated any reference to the proposed Jasper Freeway running through MacKinnon Ravine. The controversial issue is not dead, only down for the count of 9. Another reading on the amendment is scheduled later this month by council, and conceivably the thoroughfare could be reinstated in the city's master traffic plan. Two aldermen were absent from the council's sessions Tuesday and Wednesday. However, opponents of the freeway were elated by the vote and scented ultimate victory. Indeed, Mayor Ivor Dent had to call for order to halt a round of handclapping by the sparse audience when the ballots were tallied.

The vote came on an amendment offered by Ald. Una Evans to a bylaw under consideration by the council to add a list of specific freeway, freeway staging and arterial roadway projects to the transportation plan. Ald. Evans called for deleting all references to any freeway, artery or road through the MacKinnon Ravine. (In the amending bylaw, the Jasper Freeway project was described as extending from the 105 Street Bridge, along River Road to Groat Road, through MacKinnon Ravine to 149 Street and west to 170 Street. Debate on the project has raged for years, with supporters hailing it as almost a panacea for east-west traffic ills, and opponents denouncing it as an ecological disaster.)

Ald. Evans' proposal immediately split the council almost 50-50. Ald. Cec Purves insisted that a freeway through MacKinnon Ravine was needed as much as Groat Road and the Quesnell Ravine access. Ald. Dudley Menzies said a rapid transit system is not the sole answer to Edmonton's traffic problems, that a balanced system allowing for private vehicles is needed. Ald. B.C. Tanner was willing to eliminate any reference to a freeway but wanted retention of provisions for a roadway of some kind. He offered an amendment to this effect and warned that if his amendment lost, "the west side (of Edmonton) has reason to secede."

Ald. Tanner's amendment was defeated, 6 to 5. Supporting him were

Aldermen Terry Cavanagh, Alex Fallow, Purves and Menzies. Voting against were Mayor Dent and Aldermen Evans, L.O. "Buck" Olsen, Dave Ward, Ed Leger and Bill McLean. On Ald. Evans' crucial amendment to the transportation plan, she was supported by Mayor Dent and Aldermen Leger, McLean, Olsen and Ward. Voting against were Aldermen Cavanagh, Fallow, Menzies, Purves and Tanner. Absent were Aldermen Ron Hayter and Ken Newman.

While a public hearing and a third and final reading of the transportation bylaw are pending, the proposed Jasper Freeway or any roadway through MacKinnon Ravine now seems a dead issue. Arguments likely will continue for a long time over whether the city completely wasted the \$2.25 million it spent before the project was halted in

127 Street is only one of three main routes between the north side of the city to downtown and closure would only slow traffic by diverting flow to less accessible routes. The bylaw was rejected by an 8-3 vote.

Flood relief voted

Financial relief for residents whose homes were flooded by torrential rains last June and July was voted by council, but not without concern being expressed over the possibility of setting a precedent that could cost the city up to \$500,000 a year in the future. Under immediate discussion were 193 claims from the Mayfield area for a total of \$145,958 and 26 from Bonnie Doon for \$11,871. It was voted to pay "legitimate" claims from these areas as quickly as possible. About 30 other claims for an estimated total of about



MacKINNON RAVINE DOWN FOR THE COUNT
Freeway foes sense ultimate victory.

June 1972. About \$800,000 was spent in preparation for the traffic artery, mostly to backfill the river and on approaches to the ravine. That, apparently, is now money down the drain. The rest was expended largely on installation of a trunk sewer system down the ravine, which was needed by the city and probably would have cost more if located elsewhere.

Another lengthy argument over city traffic resulted when a bylaw was introduced calling for closure of a section of 127 Street south of 118 Avenue in a move to reduce travel over the route, which has a traffic count of about 8,000 vehicles a day. The closure would be for a six-month trial period. Supporters said the area has long been residential in nature and that heavy traffic is disrupting the neighborhood. Opponents claimed closing the street would hinder fire, ambulance and snow removal services, decrease property values and convert the area into a garbage dump. It also was claimed that

\$20,000 were left pending. City Solicitor Harry Wilson cautioned that it might be best to decide all legal issues before paying claims, otherwise the city may find it difficult to reject any future flood claims. Commissioner Doug Burrows for utilities and engineering set the potential future cost at \$500,000 a year.

Ald. McLean called for paying the claims, saying it is unfair for some citizens to live in areas subject to flooding while others never face the danger. "The city should share the expense," he asserted. Ald. Tanner, comparing the expense of installing storm sewers that would prove adequate for up to 10 years and a system adequate for 25 years, said it would be cheaper to pay flood claims than installing the more expensive system. Ald. Ward said he feared all sorts of claims may now be filed because of rains and snow, adding that the city should do what "is legally right or it will be crucified." Mayor Dent proposed that

payment be made in the present case with the expressed stipulation that the city is acting voluntarily and not because of legal liabilities. Payment was approved by council on those terms.

Election delay sought

Ald. Leger gave notice to council that he will introduce a motion at the Sept. 10 meeting to ask the provincial government to postpone Edmonton's municipal election on Oct. 16 until the commission headed by Mr. Justice William G. Morrow completes its inquiry into civic affairs and makes its formal report. It is Ald. Leger's contention that it would be unfair to Edmonton voters to ask them to elect a city government until all facts are in on the hearing. There was no debate on his notice, but it is recognized that most public officials do not favor any delay in the election.

Not related to postponement of the Oct. 16 election but bearing on elections was a resolution approved by the council requesting the provincial government to require prospective aldermen to declare their net worth, real estate holdings within the city and interest in any business, firm or corporation in their own names or in the names of immediate families. Ald. Leger called for more stringent regulations, recommending monthly reports, including information on any "understandings" between aldermen and individuals and firms doing business with the city. His proposals met with one affirmative vote — his own. Ald. Ward protested that such rules would make it necessary for an alderman to hire a private secretary to do nothing except keep tabs on such trivial matters as luncheon engagements, etc. The resolution approved by the council is to be forwarded to the annual convention of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association. Also to be referred to the AUMA were resolutions seeking province-wide compulsory vehicle testing and an increase to 15 per cent annual penalty on delinquent city tax payers.

Also regarding the election, council approved a bylaw establishing ward boundaries and polling divisions. The only major change shifted Mill Woods from Ward 3 to Ward 4. Procedures were also approved for facilitating voting by incapacitated persons.

Hotel purchase approved

Hotels, whether to purchase one and to allow construction of another, came in for considerable discussion — much of it behind closed doors. Mayor Dent ordered an *in camera* session on the motion of Ald. Purves on the subject of buying the Ritz Hotel at 97 Street and

103A Avenue and an adjacent two-story vacant building for a total of \$1.4 million. The council's economic affairs committee had recommended purchase of the property for use in the downtown underground section of the \$50 million northeast rapid transit line. The committee also said the property may be needed in any widening of the west side of 97 Street. The council thrashed out the matter in secrecy that lasted well over an hour, but took only a few minutes to vote approval after resuming open session. Ald. Leger complained of the closed session, saying the public had a full right to know what was going on. "Nothing has been said here (in secret session) that shouldn't have been heard in public," he complained.

A bylaw allowing for closure of a lane north of 110A Avenue between 95 and 96 Streets so two lots could be consolidated as a building site for a hotel met with objections from several aldermen. The property, owned by former Mayor William Hawrelak, is near a foundry, and the question was asked if fumes from the foundry would not bother hotel guests. Ald. McLean spoke pithily in reply: "Foundry fumes won't bother hotel guests as much as fumes from the beer parlor will bother foundry workers. Let's fact it, beer sales will make the venture viable, not the hotel." Ald. Evans said placing a hotel in the area is making poor use of the land, and Ald. Ward said the area needs parks and recreation facilities much more than it needs hotels or beer parlors. The bylaw was passed on first reading and then tabled pending approval of the development application by the Development Appeal Board, which turned down a similar application last year.

Funds for '78 Games

In other action, council:

- Approved a \$742,000 1974 capital facilities budget for the 1978 Commonwealth Games. The money will be spent on improvements to the South Side Athletic Grounds, feasibility studies, designs for aquatic centre, lawn bowls and shooting ranges, construction of bowling greens and administrative costs.

- Approved a policy, effective Sept. 1, whereby passengers of the Edmonton Transportation System may transfer free of charge from ETS to St. Albert buses and vice versa.

ISSUES

Wickman calls for curbs on campaign spending

Basing his campaign on the slogan, "People Come First," a 33-year-old programs and project planner for



HOPEFUL WICKMAN

"People come first."

the Handicapped Housing Society of Alberta recently announced he is seeking a seat on the Edmonton city council from Ward 2. Percy Wickman, who lives at 4307 116 Street, said elected representatives should bear in mind the interests of citizens at large instead of "elite groups with vested interests." He favors some form of rent controls, preservation of park land, a revised ward system, rapid transit in preference to freeways, and limitations on campaign expenses. An unsuccessful candidate in the 1970 by-election, he proposed a \$10,000 maximum for those seeking to become mayor.

A native of Thunderbay, Ont., Mr. Wickman came to Alberta in 1960. In 1964 he was injured in an industrial accident that confined him permanently to a wheelchair. As an adult student, he attended the Alberta Vocational Centre and completed Grade 12. He then took a two-year course in business administration at NAIT, where he was vice president of the students council and was the first recipient of the Neil Hutton Memorial Trophy for outstanding student service. After graduation he became advertising manager of the University of Alberta students union and was a founder of CUPE Local 1368, serving as president for two years. In recent years, he has studied political science and urban government at the university.

Married and the father of a 10 year-old son, Mr. Wickman holds office in a number of community organizations. He is chairman of the MLA Handicapped Joint Committee, president of Alberta Action Groups of the Disabled, and chairman of the Edmonton and District Ability Fund Drive.

Noting that his own financial interests consist only of the home owned jointly by his wife and himself, Mr. Wickman thinks all candidates should be questioned closely by the electorate on financial holdings and campaign expenses.

United Church delegates dance in aisles but battle royal over policies still rages

The million communicants of the United Church of Canada are now embroiled in a battle royal. Both their retiring and newly elected moderators view declining membership with nonchalant complacency. Their statements seem to echo one another, that a fall in church rolls is "like a pruning of the tree" and that churches "are more alive because people are no longer just going along for the ride." Their national church organ, *The United Church Observer*, however, has editorially stated that they can save their breath, stop the eulogistic talk and start writing the funeral dirge. The 26th General Council, the United Church biennial "think tank" which this year drew nearly 440 national delegates to the University of Guelph in Ontario, ended recently, apparently ignoring the *Observer's* challenge to "confront the facts of church life . . ." and not "go singing and dialoguing its way past the sobering statistics to become another middle-class aging denomination." One of the two Council nominees from the west for church moderator was the Rev. George M. Tuttle, 58, of Edmonton, 33-year ministerial veteran. Last week as he resumed his post as principal of St. Stephen's Theological College, the craggy-faced administrator professorially fielded inquiries into the state of his church.

"I think the church needs to take a serious view towards its institutional condition. There're lots of problems there. Hierarchical forms just won't do any more. Large auditoriums, used once a week, are an economic waste. We can achieve our corporate worship in this city in one or two large structures while the rest of the worship might better be conducted in private homes. I think we have too much property sometimes!" It's this edifice complex with mother church overtones that may well be turning people off to the church's main thrust — the gospel.

"The church should travel light," Mr. Tuttle continued. "The individual congregations are the trenches of the church, and that's where it's at. I'm not interested in the numbers game, only in the impact of the congregation on the community where it is."

As the United Church moves into its second half century, the liberal atmosphere, termed "loose" by Mr. Tuttle, which influences its Protestant viewpoints has garnered some rabid opposition. The *Observer* was finally driven in

its August issue to state, "An obvious fact is the United Church has invested recently in things that don't work. We have planned long for a union that isn't too likely to come. During this past decade we have lost too many members, closed too many churches, folded up too many programs, neglected our youth — and backslid more than any other communion in Canada." The latest figures show that Edmonton had 477 fewer United Churchmen in 1973 (15,588) than it did in 1972 (16,065).

But the athletic father of two ("When



PRINCIPAL TUTTLE
Lots of problems.

I can't ski anymore, that's when I'll worry about my age") isn't about to be unduly ruffled. Born here and reared in the Garneau district, Mr. Tuttle seems destined to remain in his old neighborhood. After attending the University of Alberta and graduating from St. Stephen's Theological College, he worked for four years in the Toronto headquarters as director of the youth department. A parish in Sanguido, Alta., was followed by 15 years as professor of

Christian education at University of British Columbia's theological college. The son of a former moderator (the late Very Rev. Aubrey S. Tuttle), he became principal of St. Stephen's in 1966, returning to Garneau.

He went to the Aug. 18-24 council as a potential leader of the nation's third largest church and assessed the major accomplishments of the spirited assembly as follows:

(1) The election of the Rt. Rev. Wilbur K. Howard, 62, the first non-white ever elected to head a major Christian church in Canada (he is black). "Howard is an old friend of mine. We were together in youth leadership work in Toronto, traveled and roomed together. He was a very popular and timely choice, exceedingly humorous and will be highly inspirational. He is primarily concerned with education, both small group and large, within the church. By contrast, retiring moderator N. Bruce McLeod, 45, is more interested in the political and technical advances of modern man and was very open to conversations with other world religions, not standing on ceremony."

(2) The report by a task force on the ministry. "In more recent years we have been returning to a more New Testament understanding of the ministry. We believe it belongs to Christ himself and has been entrusted to every one of us. Some are set aside and paid a salary and are professional ministers. Others are lay workers. The functions differ but the status is the same. We are moving away from an emphasis on ordination as magically infusing someone with spiritual juice."

(3) National agreement that the "Plan of Union" among the Anglicans, Disciples of Christ and United Church stand as it is for final voter approval at the congregational level. So jubilant were the delegates at the overwhelming approval that many shouted, sang and literally danced in the aisles. And who should walk through the doors as discussion was closing off but the Anglican primate of all Canada, the Most Rev. Ted Scott, who mounted the podium and expressed his good will. "I believe in church union," says Mr. Tuttle, "but care must be taken that we do not mislead each other. And it should not be assumed that the whole church approves union. That is manifestly not the case." The recent flap in the U.S. over the "illegal" ordination of 11 women as priests in the Episcopal church points up only one difficulty. The union plan gives equal opportunity for either sex to enter the priesthood. Such incongruity lends little comfort to the



SIGN WELCOMES COLLEGE VISITORS
Not a private club just for Baptists.

union talks, already 32 years old. One delegate, caught up in the spirit of union, introduced a resolution to begin "the long road" to union with the church in Rome. The assembly approved the action easily. Mr. Tuttle says it must have been the exuberance of the moment but that ultimate reconciliation of all Christendom has long been a goal.

(4) General council committee decision to draw back on its position to allow abortion for social and economic reasons and to "tread water" until another look at the issue is taken. A loud groan arose among vast numbers of United Churchmen when what appeared to be "abortion on demand" was granted church approval in 1971. "They have decided to give moral implications first consideration and social, health and convenience aspects second place. I am sure that the church will demand that abortion be removed from the criminal realm and will support the pregnant mother whatever her decision is. Personally, I feel the life of that fetus is inviolable save to prevent the mother's death. But then I was a conscientious objector during the war. And that's the point. The church is striving for consistency. We cannot say that the Allies were theologically justified in killing the Nazis on the one hand but that abortion in every case is theologically wrong. Morality cannot be dealt with in absolutes." Some years ago, the church's own publishing house was not unionized while at the same time a stand was taken for collective bargaining. Against the publishing house administration wishes, the

General Council forced them to unionize.

Dr. Tuttle is not pessimistic about the United Church of the future. With new leadership, a switch in emphasis and non-hypocritical church investments (i.e. no church support of South African companies employing semi-slave labor, etc.) the days ahead, if not bright with crowd-pleasing revisions, should at least name a winner in the battle royal.

THEOLOGY Accredited Baptist college serves other denominations

All during spring training, the Edmonton Eskimos grunted and groaned their way across 27 prime south Edmonton acres, scant blocks from the encroaching city. Just across the spacious lawn from their ram sessions stand the neat brick buildings of North American Baptist College, host to the pigskin stars. This week the cries of "Hustle, hustle, hustle!" have been replaced by "May I borrow your Bible?" or "What time did you say chapel was?" School is officially open for what stands as one of the few fully accredited Protestant Bible colleges in western Canada.

The prairies are dotted with numbers of individual church-run institutions which primarily employ their graduates within their own structures and are largely unaccredited. But United Churchmen, Anglicans, Pentecostals or Mennonites as well as Baptists can take their earned bachelor degrees in theology from NABC and be widely accepted throughout the U.S. and Canada. Thrice weekly compulsory

chapel services often feature the likes of former All Saints Anglican Dean Randall Ivany or the president of Multnomah School of the Bible in Portland, Ore., or a student. "This isn't a private club just for Baptists," says its Swan Lake, Manitoba born president Dr. Joseph Sonnenberg, 52. "Some 30 per cent of our student body comes from the States, but most of our kids come from Alberta."

Currently accredited by the American Association of Bible Colleges in Wheaton, Ill., the college may one day be approved by a sister Canadian organization now under formation. Some 173 students studied there last year but as of last week enrolment stood at 110. Approximately 211 can be accommodated on campus plus 300 additional off-campus students. That the modern facilities built in 1968 will some day operate at capacity, Dr. Sonneberg is sure.

"Board, room and tuition amount to only \$1,500 per year here, as we are heavily subsidized by the North American Baptist General Conference. Liberal arts colleges last year were declining in students. Bible colleges were up 5 per cent, however. We're not getting as many men who want to be Protestant pastors just as the Catholics are experiencing difficulty getting priests. Plenty want to study for church-related work such as teaching, but many have heard how much work a minister has to do!"

But NABC has not skimped in providing the church of the near future with men and women who can cope with moral vacuums as modernly as society can create them. Video tape recording gives the would-be preacher instant replay. Suddenly he becomes part of the congregation at the mercy of his own sermon. Potential Sunday school teachers discover via the tube exactly why they either have a class of spit-wad hurlers or eager listeners — in an instant they have become the pupil.

Micro film viewers which contain 98 pages on a single card whisk the student to a goal faster and more efficiently than a mountain of textbooks. A new "convertible" dormitory offers small apartment elegance for married students and carpeted comfort for singles. Depending on which sex or marital status is most predominant in any given school year, "jiffy" walls can be erected or removed to arrange the rooms for maximum utilization and privacy.

Not too far from the campus resides its founder, E.P. Wahl. A devout Baptist in his 80's, he still actively promotes his school's activities. Back in 1940, his eldest son died. The insurance money realized was used to start the

Christian Training Institute off 109 Street on 78 Avenue. Senior matriculation was introduced in 1949 and discontinued in 1972. In 1958, the theological department was added and eventually a bachelor of religious education degree came to be in addition to that of theology. The school is in the process of moving to a graduate level with a master's program likely to be initiated a year from now.

Dr. Sonnenberg came to the presidency in 1970, two years after the expanded facilities were realized. He attended NABC in its infancy in 1942, then took seminary training in Rochester, N.Y. For three years he pastored in Camrose, followed by 10½ years in Chicago. He was area secretary for the NABGC in Portland, Ore., for 12 years before assuming his present post, with a faculty of 14 full-time teachers.

The old fashioned gaslight lamp posts hiss softly along the walk leading to the chapel where arching laminated beams and knotty pine walls reflect the soft hues of worship. As one teacher remarked wistfully, "It sure isn't like it used to be when I went to Bible school!" The students filing past smiled indulgently. Neither is the world.

WORSHIP

Passionate painter promises free art for eager churches

His paintings have hung in Gutenberg, Germany, and Paris, France. He was the 16th Canadian named to the International Artists Guild headquartered in Monaco. After six years of study in psychoanalysis at an insane asylum, he gained international renown for his haunting canvases depicting the lunatic, the senile and the lonely. A CBC interviewer in Toronto was left holding a cold microphone as he gaped open-mouthed at the lithe, rapidly receding artist who hadn't liked the questions he was being asked. The brooding painter once was told by a teacher that he was too stupid to tackle the basic arts and he was consequently forbidden to paint in his home. Yesterday, an elementary

school drop-out; today, a plant geneticist for the provincial department of agriculture by day, and, a 15-mile drive later, an artist by night in his secluded studio on the wooded outskirts of Lacombe.

A rare appearance was made fortnight ago by the intense Jack S. Vander Wal in a basement meeting room of the Centennial Library. He spoke "from the gut" before Pulse, a unique organization formed four years ago among members of Christian Reformed churches to inspire and promote the arts in their original home—the church. Because, he said, you are "naked" as an artist and when your work is discussed it is a discussion of your soul, he failed to appear at his traveling show in France in February nor will he appear at a tentative Oct. 31 showing in Paris. But a group of churchmen which actively reviews secular movies, presents multi-media events and generally places cultural expression in a Christian perspective might understand, so he agreed to talk about his "painted hymns."

The arts have been brought down from the religious, he said, and launched on a secular career. But art is a form of worship. Yet the sweating, eye-straining, meticulous "worship service" of a Michelangelo has been replaced by an "age of despair." What was once the soaring theology of a chapel ceiling is now the mercenary "pile of garbage that is called a sculpture. You walk around it and give out a few intelligent 'uh-huhs.' But what it really is is still just a pile of garbage—disposable man." Blues and "poverty songs" were once sung because the people singing them were hurting inside. Now, claims Mr. Vander Wal, rock songs are mass-produced to make a million dollars. One of his paintings depicts a rock singer assaulting a microphone with verve but is entitled, "The 'Rolls' Driven Poverty Singer."

"I believe that I will be damned if I don't paint!" declared the artist. "But most artists operate on a profit motive now." It is a condition with which



ARTIST VANDER WAL
Who's knocking?

society in general is afflicted. "How would we love God if there was no reward of eternal life? Could we love for God's sake?"

Mr. Vander Wal was hurting. The tanned face under the long, blond shocks was grieving. His peers for the most part have rejected religion and his best friends in the arts are agnostics and atheists. The nature of the church has become the serving of an ideology rather than human kindness. Church publications for the most part, he says, have become "as slick as Coca Cola ads on the outside with red-cheeked children who have never known dirt behind their ears."

For Leonardo da Vinci and others, their home was the church. The Reformation, however, put "an axe to art in the church. There were good reasons, as there are good reasons for campus riots. The church was the authority and the peasants had a chance to rebel." The condition existed until the 1900's when the Impressionists broke with the church and began to express their frustrations at having been displaced. Vincent van Gogh formed an art colony in the south of France and hunted a new religion. His failure to find one ended in suicide. Paul Gauguin likewise went to Tahiti in the hope that the natives would provide a religion primitive in scope and emphasis. But in 1898 he wrote that sorrow was his master, and a later suicide attempt failed. Picasso gave the world Cubism, "man's way of saying communication is gone. He tried to create a god of his own. He fought death his last couple of years by producing hundreds of paintings that were but copies of himself."

Soon art emphasized the nonsense



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EDMONTON REPORT.

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element. "Happenings" which featured sledge hammers smashing pianos, and Andy Warhol's giant soup cans and hot dog buns with girls inside were expressing "nothingness." Their despair is described in one of Mr. Vander Wal's many poems where a person enters a phone booth, drops a coin in the slot, dials a number and stands listening to the busy tone. The number too often dialed is that of the modern church, he says.

"Many artists wake up in a cold sweat because what you do today will echo over your grave. I've burned a truckload of paintings for that reason. It's more frightful than drying up." Most of the paintings which survived his scourge are subdued, furtive, cold, blue, moody and lonely "windows" on a painful world. His subjects appear physically deformed with exaggerated distortions. In actuality the misshapen forms are outward manifestations of inward, mental deformities. Old people who can't cope with the startling changes and pace of the world stare wide-eyed and out-of-touch. A campus rioter with brick in one hand and jutting middle finger of the other shouts angry words at a "deaf" establishment. A pregnant mother clutches her protruding stomach which is transparent with fetus clearly seen. Her face contorts with the pros and cons of abortion. Mr. Vander Wal does not paint "little colored Sunday school pills" which are sweet to the taste and gentle on the stomach. "I know something about the high cost of creation. When my paintings go up, it is my guts hanging on the wall."

Born in The Netherlands in 1924, the artist served in the Dutch Underground but has rarely faced the flak he is willing to take to reinstate art in its rightful place. "I remember an Anglican art worship service I attended once. A white-faced clown pantomimed the law as it was read by the minister. When people went forward to receive communion, the clown daubed each nose with make up. The theme was 'To Be a Fool For Christ' and the elderly were the first ones up!" Since that experience, many of his canvases have been a little easier to fill. "To me a white canvas is like 'Our Father which art in Heaven.' When God faced the task of creating the world, He, too, faced a blank canvas."

Mr. Vander Wal closed his slide and oral presentation with an offer he hoped the churches could not refuse. "I'll offer my paintings free to any churches who will hang them in permanent places where all people can see them. All I ask is to be able to explain the meaning of them. Let the poets go to the pulpit. The church is my home. Why do I have to knock?"